



NORTH FORT BEND
CHURCH OF CHRIST

What's In A Name?



Key Points

Introduction – “What’s In A Name?”

Do I live Up To My GOD Given Potential?

Do I live Up To My GOD Given Name?

What’s My Name?

What's In A Name

Names Represent Identity

“And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field... and whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.”
— *Genesis 2:19*

Adam's first task was to **name** creation. Naming symbolized **authority** and **understanding** of purpose. Likewise, our names often reflect who we are in God's sight.

- **Adam** — “man,” from the earth (*adamah*).
- **Eve** — “mother of all living.”
- **Isaac** — “laughter,” because Sarah laughed when told she'd bear a son.
- **Israel** — “one who struggles with God,” a name given to Jacob after wrestling with the angel.

Each name told a **story**.

What's In A Name

God Changes Names to Mark Transformation

“Throughout Scripture, God renames people when He calls them into a new identity or divine purpose.

Before	After	Meaning
Abram	Abraham	From “exalted father” to “father of many nations” (Genesis 17:5)
Sarai	Sarah	“Princess,” mother of nations (Genesis 17:15)
Jacob	Israel	“He struggles with God” (Genesis 32:28)
Simon	Peter	“Rock,” on which Christ would build His church (John 1:42)
Saul	Paul	“Small” or “humble,” symbolizing transformation in service (Acts 13:9)

When God gives you a new name, He's revealing a new mission.

What's In A Name

God's Own Name Is Holy and Powerful

“I AM WHO I AM.” — *Exodus 3:14*

God's revealed name, YHWH (Yahweh), expresses His eternal, self-existent nature. Other divine names show His attributes:

- El Shaddai — God Almighty
- Jehovah Jireh — The Lord will provide
- Jehovah Rapha — The Lord who heals
- Jehovah Nissi — The Lord is my banner
- Emmanuel — God with us (fulfilled in Jesus)

Each name shows a different aspect of His nature and His relationship with His people.

What's In A Name

Jesus' Name Holds Authority and Salvation

“You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

— *Matthew 1:21*

- **Jesus (Yeshua)** means “*The Lord is salvation.*”
- **Philippians 2:6–11** — “Christ had the same nature as God.

He was completely equal with God. But he did not try to keep hold of that. ⁷ Instead, he chose to leave heaven. He took for himself the nature of a slave. He became like a human. ⁸ And when he lived as a man, he made himself even less important. He obeyed God completely, so that he died. He even died on a cross! ⁹ Because of that, God then raised Jesus Christ to the most important place. God gave him the name that is greater than every other name. ¹⁰ As a result, when people hear Jesus' name, they must worship him. Everyone will have to go down on their knees in front of him. That includes everything that is in heaven, everything on the earth and everything under the earth. ¹¹ Everyone will have to agree that Jesus Christ is Lord. When they say that aloud, they will show that God the Father is very great.

There is power, healing, and authority in His name. When believers pray in Jesus' name, they invoke His character, authority, and promise.

What's In A Name

A New Name in Glory

¹⁷ God's Spirit is speaking to you in the churches. You should understand what the Spirit is saying to you. You have ears, so listen carefully! To everyone who wins against Satan I will give some of my special food called manna. I will also give each of them a white stone.^[i] I will write a new name on that stone. Nobody will know that name except the person who receives it.”

— *Revelation 2:17*

Those who overcome in Christ are promised a **new, eternal name** — a personal identity in glory known only between God and the redeemed soul.

What's In A Name

Living Up to the Name

“Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”
— *2 Timothy 2:19*

To bear the name **Christian** means to represent **Christ**.
Our lives should reflect the meaning of that name — holy, compassionate, truthful, and full of grace.

In Scripture, a name isn't just a label — it's a **calling**.
God knows your name, calls you by name, and may even rename you for His purpose.

Isaiah 43:1 — “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.”

What's In A Name

Symbolism of Job's Children After His Test

Daughter	Name Meaning	Spiritual / Restorative Symbolism
Jemimah	"Dove" 🕊️	Symbol of peace and renewal . After Job's turmoil, God restores calm and blessing.
Keziah	"Cassia (spice)" 🌿	Symbol of sweet fragrance and value . God turns Job's bitter suffering into a life of sweetness and honor.
Keren-Happuch	"Horn of Beauty / Cosmetics" 🏺	Symbol of radiance, dignity, and outward beauty . Represents Job's restored honor and the visible glory of God's blessing.

- Before the test → Job's 10 children (7 sons, 3 daughters) are unnamed, emphasizing **loss and grief**.
- After the test → Ten (10) Children are restored, with the 3 daughters named in ways that highlight **peace, sweetness, and beauty**. *15 And in all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers. (Job 42:15).*
- The naming itself is symbolic: Job's end is **better than his beginning** (Job 42:12).

What's In A Name

Symbolism of Ron's Children During His Test

Daughter	Name Meaning	Spiritual / Restorative Symbolism	Scripture
Cara	"Beloved" or "dear" in Italian; in Irish, sometimes interpreted as "friend"	Cara symbolizes one who is deeply loved by God and called to love others. In Scripture, "beloved" is often used for those precious to the Lord:	"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God..." (1 John 4:7) Spiritual trait: Compassionate, tender-hearted, brings warmth and grace to relationships. Symbolic theme: God's affection and acceptance.
Carli	"Free woman" (feminine form of Carl, which means "free man")	Carli represents freedom in Christ — one who walks in liberty, not bound by fear, sin, or people's opinions.	"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." (Galatians 5:1) Spiritual trait: Independent in thought yet humble, courageous, and faithful to truth. Symbolic theme: Redemption and spiritual liberty.
Caitlin	"Pure" (from the Greek origin of Catherine, "katharos") 🏰	Caitlin embodies purity of heart and purpose, representing those who seek God sincerely.	"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8) Spiritual trait: Integrity, sincerity, moral clarity, and devotion. Symbolic theme: Holiness, inner beauty, and divine vision.



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