

**END OF YEAR MESSAGE
DECEMBER 26 2021**

Bob Chuck Dave

Maverick – Brandon... And it begins

Word and Name of God

The Word of God

IN THE BEGINNING: GOD'S WORD IN HIS HEART REVEALED

1 Peter 1:18-21

¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

- For our sake
- That our faith and hope would be in Him

Ephesians 1:3-5

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms. ⁴For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His presence. In love ⁵He predestined us for adoption as His sons through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will,...

- To be adopted into His family
- It is His pleasure

GOD OUTSIDE OF CREATION: CREATION IS GOD'S WORD REVEALED

General Revelation

And God said...

Genesis 1:3 3

And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

- The Sonic Vibration of the Divine Voice
- That Heavenly frequency that creates life and all things that are created.
- Each day.... "And God said,"

Hebrews 12:18-19

¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them

Rev. 14:1-2

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. ² And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps,

Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Rom. 1:20

²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

GOD INSIDE OF CREATION: CHRIST IS GOD'S WORD REVEALED

Special Revelation

- Dreams, visions, the written Word of God, and most importantly—Jesus Christ.
- Modern atheists have made great efforts to deny the existence of Jesus. Today some claim that Jesus is just an idea, rather than a real historical figure.
 - The historical evidence for Jesus of Nazareth is **both long-established and widespread.**
 - Within a few decades of his supposed lifetime, he is mentioned by Jewish and Roman historians, as well as by dozens of Christian writings.
 - **Compare that with, King Arthur**, who supposedly lived around AD500.
 - The major historical source for events of that time does not even mention Arthur, and he is first referred to 300 or 400 years after he is supposed to

have lived. The evidence for Jesus is not limited to later folklore, as are accounts of Arthur.

- The value of this evidence is that it is both **early and detailed**.
 - The **first Christian writings** to talk about Jesus are the epistles of St Paul, and scholars agree that the earliest of these letters were written **within 25 years** of Jesus's death at the very latest,
 - while the detailed biographical accounts of Jesus in the New Testament **gospels date from around 40 years** after he died.
 - These all appeared within the lifetimes of numerous **eyewitnesses**, and provide descriptions that comport with the culture and geography of first-century Palestine.
 - It is also difficult to imagine why Christian writers would invent such a thoroughly Jewish savior figure in a time and place – under the aegis of the Roman empire – where there was strong suspicion of Judaism.

- Outside
 - **Flavius Josephus**, As far as we know, the first author outside the church to mention Jesus is the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus, who wrote a history of Judaism around AD93.
 - – a reference to James, the brother of “Jesus, the so-called Christ”.
 - About 20 years after Josephus we have the Roman politicians **Pliny and Tacitus**,
 - who held some of the highest offices of state at the beginning of the second century AD.
 - **From Tacitus** we learn that Jesus was executed while Pontius Pilate was the Roman prefect in charge of Judaea (AD26-36) and Tiberius was emperor (AD14-37) – reports that fit with the timeframe of the gospels.
 - **Pliny contributes** the information that, where he was governor in northern Turkey, Christians worshipped Christ as a god.
 - Neither of them liked Christians – Pliny writes of their “pig-headed obstinacy” and Tacitus calls their religion a destructive superstition.

- No Debate
 - Strikingly, there was never any debate in the **ancient world** about whether Jesus of Nazareth was a historical figure.
 - In the earliest literature of the Jewish **Rabbis**, Jesus was denounced as the illegitimate child of Mary and a sorcerer.
 - Among **pagans**, the satirist Lucian and philosopher Celsus dismissed Jesus as a scoundrel, but we know of no one in the ancient world who questioned whether Jesus lived.

- Handel's *Messiah*
 - From the prophecies to the exaltation of Christ in Revelation
 - Hallelujah Chorus

*The kingdom of this world
Is become the kingdom of our Lord
And of His Christ, and of His Christ
And He shall reign for ever and ever*

Isa 40:5

And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

John 1:1-3, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son[d] from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 1:1-3

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Phil 2:6-8

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- Though historians and early writings confirm the reality of Jesus...We know His teachings and His nature, His sacrifice, his resurrection from the Bible
- You can't say you follow Jesus and not have known about Him from the Bible. In fact, if you have not read the New Testament.... You do not know Him at ALL.

That is why God gave one more revelation
His inspired Revelation

GOD'S INSTRUCTION TO CREATION: SCRIPTURE IS GOD'S WORD REVEALED

Inspired Revelation

- Jesus quoted and referred to the Hebrew Scriptures
- (the Christian Old testament)

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

I grow weary of those who continue to fall back on it is only as good as the translators and there are many errors in translation.

- 1947 called and you the dead Sea scrolls are telling you: YOU ARE WRONG. Catch up.
 - Many of the Old testament books
 - And what we have today is accurate.
- One writer this week, in their arrogant stand in wokism, called the Bible the white man's oppression.
 - That the King James was the white man's usurping the culture and color of Christ.
- The ignorance and laziness of these people. One hour of actual research would bring you to the clear understanding that what we have is what was said.
 - You do not have to like it.
 - You can reject it.
 - But you can't say that what we are reading is not what god was saying.
 - If these words are, indeed god's revealed words to mankind. They are the most important thing in existence.
 - If these words are not true, then go about your life for they have no meaning at all.
 - But you cannot be half way. Do not quote or base anything on Scripture while you systematically are dismantling is relevance to the world.
 - It is not a buffet or smorgasbord for you to choose *a la carte* what you want to hold to and what you wish to discard.

You can trust the Word of God.

- His heart
- His Creation
- His son – the Living Word
- His written word

He has been true and faithful even before He spoke, Let there be light!

We love the Word of God

Today we also want to speak briefly about the name of God

The Name of God

- Many attribute names
 - Infinite, faithful one, good Father, omnipotent, Counselor, Prince of Peace, Sovereign, wise, loving
- Linked to Lordship
 - Jehovah – Nissi – God our banner
 - Jehovah – Rophe – God our Healer
 - Jehovah – Joreh – God our provider
 - Jehovah – Shalom – God our peace

YHWH

Tetragrammaton

Where does this come from?

Is it a term for God or is it the name of God?

- **Yahweh** is the pronunciation of the covenant name of God, YHVH
- **Yehovah** is another pronunciation
- **Jehovah** is the Anglicized form

Whenever the name LORD is printed in small caps in this English translation, it means the NAME: **YAHWEH**.

For ancient Jews (and conservative modern ones), **YAHWEH** was the Name of names; so sacred that they would not speak it nor would they write it in full (they left out the vowels: **YHWH**).

YAHWEH was the Holy One of Israel.

Abraham

God first used this name when He spoke with Abram (Abraham).

Gen 15:7

“And he said unto him, I am the LORD [YHWH, Yehovah, Yahweh] that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.”

Moses

The name, YHWH, was also revealed to Moses on Mt. Sinai when God appeared to Moses in a burning bush. Moses asked His name and God answered.

Exodus 3:13-15

Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD [YHVH, Yehovah, Yahweh] God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name forever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

ehyeh asher ehyeh –

- I am the One who Is
- I am who I Am
- I will be who I will be

"I am." It stems from the Hebrew conception of monotheism that God exists by himself, the uncreated Creator who doesn't depend on anything or anyone else; therefore I am who I am.

I AM IT!

I AM THE ONE AND ONLY

Jehovah or Jesus

Yaweh, Yehovah. Jehovah?

Yeshua, Iesous, or Jesus

Yeshua is the Hebrew name

English spelling is "Joshua."

Iesous is the Greek transliteration of the Hebrew name

English spelling is "Jesus."

Thus, the names "Joshua" and "Jesus" are essentially the same;

- both are English pronunciations of the Hebrew and Greek names for our Lord.

Yeshua means – The Lord is Salvation / Our God who saves

Joshua means - The Lord is Salvation / Our God who saves

Jesus means - The Lord is Salvation / Our God who saves

Isaiah 45:22-25

*Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn; from my mouth has gone out in righteousness a word that shall not return: **"To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance."** **Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; to him shall come and be ashamed all who were incensed against him. In the LORD all the offspring of Israel shall be justified and shall glory.***

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

- To see just how breathtaking this statement really is, we must understand what Paul has in mind here.

That verse speaking of the LORD from Isaiah was about Yahweh...

- So this verse is saying a lot!

Remember that the Bible is a book of progressive revelation.

- In ancient days, God spoke through His prophets and prophesied of the Messiah to come.
- During His earthly ministry, Jesus gave a further revelation of God's purpose and plan in redeeming man and restoring all things.

- And, after Jesus' ascension to Heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to inspire the writing of words of God we have in the New Testament, thereby giving further revelation and completing the Holy Scriptures.

With full revelation, we understand the Great I AM who spoke to Moses to be a Triune God.

- one God in three distinct Persons:
 - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
 - All three Persons are co-eternal, co-equal, and co-existent in the one Godhead.
 - Therefore, when God revealed His name as Yahweh to Moses, it was a revelation of the name of our Triune God.
- We understand God's triune nature, but prior to Jesus' incarnation, it was not possible for the people of Israel to comprehend this.
 - In fact, the Shema, a prayer that is the "centerpiece" of the morning and evening Jewish prayer services, proclaims that "God is one."
 - **We know we are only to worship the ONE God.**

Deuteronomy 6:4.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.

That is precisely what God revealed to Moses, and exactly what He wanted His people, Israel, to **understand at that time.**

God was preparing His people to recognize their coming Messiah,

- the "seed" that was promised in the garden,
- the One who would come and rescue fallen man (Genesis 3:15).
 - From the beginning in the garden, and continuing throughout the Old Testament,
 - we read of God revealing more and more of His purpose and plan of redemption and more and more about who that Redeemer would be...including His name.

The Birth of Jesus –

- Immanuel God With Us
- Jesus – God who Saves

When Jesus was born, the second Person of the Trinity took on flesh

As a Pharisee, Paul knew this text very well.

- He knew exactly what he was saying: Jesus of Nazareth is *YAHWEH*.
- Pause and feel the weight of that statement.
- Paul once approved of the execution of those who claimed such things.

In the English language, the name of Jesus is universally recognized as the name of our King (Mashiach in Hebrew), and our God (Yahweh in Hebrew), and our Savior (Moshia in Hebrew). Just as it is suggested to add His titles to the Hebrew name Yeshua, Christians would do well to add His full title to the English name Jesus and call Him the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yahweh (YHVH) = the Great I AM (Ex 3:14)

Yeshua Ha Mashiach = Jesus the Messiah

Yeshua Ha Moshia = Jesus our Savior

The Lord Jesus Christ = our God, our Savior, our King

By whichever name you call Him...to Him alone be all the glory, now and forever!

- He would one day die for proclaiming it.

As we close this service let us look at that verse again:

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

I will worship

I will confess

I will bow