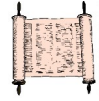




AN ANSWER TO:

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LINGUISTIC SUPERSTITION & THE SACRED NAME MOVEMENT

Dr. Daniel Botkin

Dr. Botkin publishes the Gates of Eden magazine wherein the above article was presented some time ago. This author was inspired to write a rebuttal to Dr. Botkin, however it was never published. It is our responsibility to "...give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and reverence," 1 Pet. 3:15.

By Pastor Jerry Healan

Dr. Botkin: From the author: I first wrote a rough draft for this article around 1993, then expanded it around 2002, and finally revised it to its present form about 10 years ago and made it into a small booklet. This subject continues to come up, so I am printing it in GOE. (Gates of Eden)

J. Healan: Dear Mr., Dr. Botkin, what I want to do, firstly, is to focus on a couple of Scriptures that you have read in your studies, but evidently pay little heed to. I hope these get your attention, however I expect that this treatise will only serve to annoy you a little.

The first Scripture is found in 1 Jn. 2:21, "I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that **no lie is of the truth.**"

The second Scripture is found in Jn. 4:24, "Yahweh is Spirit: and **they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

Dr. Botkin: Linguistic superstition is the belief that saying certain "negative" words will produce negative results, and saying certain "positive" words in just the right way will produce positive results. This sort of belief system is most apparent in occult magic. Practitioners of occult magic believe that certain words have an inherent power of force within them which can be harnessed and utilized when the words are pronounced in a precise, prescribed manner. The seven sons of Sceva believed this. When they saw Paul doing miracles in the name of Yeshua, they tried to cast out a demon by saying, "We adjure you by Yeshua whom Paul preacheth." The demon in the man replied, "Yeshua I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" Then the man leaped on them and gave them a good beating. (See Acts

19:13-16)

J. Healan: Dr. Botkin, I can see that you truly detest the Sacred Name people which is a spirit and attitude that you need to repent of. Let's get something straight right off the bat. The term "Sacred Name" means just that. The Heavenly Father and His wondrous son are holy, sacred, *qodesh* (in the Hebrew). So are their names. And yes, their names have power. As you well know and see from the Scriptures the fact is that the name Yahweh had power from the beginning. It was by the name Yahweh (יהוה), in Modern Hebrew; יהוה, in Paleo Hebrew; and יהוה, in Pictorial Hebrew) that Israel was delivered from the house of bondage in the land of Egypt. Yahweh told Pharaoh, "For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth. And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for **to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth,**" Ex. 9:15-16.

While it is true that the occultist (witches, sorcerers, etc.) utilize various words for negative or positive power, the simple fact is that even in our daily language "negative words" do harm, while "positive words" help to encourage, edify, etc. Maybe you have heard of the Japanese scientist Masaru Emoto who has done experiments with water. He can either say, or print "negative/evil" words on, or over little vials of water, then freeze them and the result is an evil looking chaotic mess, while "positive," encouraging, good words produce the most beautiful crystals imaginable. His experiments prove that even water has memory and



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words do have positive and negative effects!

Your linking of occult superstition with the Sacred Name brethren is vile, to say the least. You failed to show that Paul and the other apostles and disciples, who were faithful believers, had great power and performed great miracles when they utilized Yahshua's name, but those who seek to utilize the evil ways of occultism, witchcraft, sorcery, etc. are powerless when it comes to Yahshua's, or Yahweh's name. Utilizing their names for evil purposes is taking their names in vain. We understand that and avoid it. You are laying a false charge at our feet.

You tried to utilize it to prove your point, but your point fails when it comes to the true names, and the faithful who call upon, and are led into the paths of righteousness by them.

Dr. Botkin: You would think that Bible believers would know better than to get entangled in linguistic superstition. Sadly, that is not the case. We have seen Linguistic superstition manifested by some Christians in the "Word of faith"/"positive confession" movement. Now we are seeing linguistic superstition of another sort being manifested in the Sacred Name (SN) movement.

J. Healan: So, Dr. Botkin, to utilize and call upon the TRUE NAMES is linguistic superstition!? Get it Dr. Botkin, not only SACRED, but TRUE! I would fear if I were you! Because that which is true, holy, sacred is of the Holy Spirit! You are equating the truth, that which is sacred and holy, with superstition and even occultism! You should repent and fear that you haven't blasphemed the Holy Spirit!

Dr. Botkin: The SN movement is a movement that began in the late 1930s as an offshoot of the Church of God, Seventh Day denomination. The main focus of this movement (as the phrase "Sacred Name" suggests) is the use of God's Hebrew name. In most SN literature God's Hebrew name is transliterated as "Yahweh" (though at least 38 other variant spellings exist among SN believers). Jesus' Hebrew name is usually mis-transliterated as "Yahshua" (though at least 55 other variant spellings exist among SN believers).

J. Healan: Yes, there are differences among Yahweh's

people concerning how to pronounce the Creator's name, and that is an easy thing to focus on, negatively, that is....the various differences, but you, yourself seem to be a Christian. Which group do you associate with, or claim to be a part of? Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Methodist, Church of Christ, Church of God, Baptist, First Baptist, Seventh Day Baptist, Seventh Day Adventist, Pentecostal....etc. *ad infinitum*?

You say, "mis-transliterated as "Yahshua." What do you call the patriarch of the Old Testament who led Israel after Moses died, Joshua (like most of the rest of the English world)? Is that a mis-transliteration? You should know, yourself, since you have the title Dr., that there is no "J" in the Hebrew or Greek alphabets, and there was no "J" in the English alphabet until the 17th century, which means that the name Jesus is false, a lie! Remember the Scriptures that I began with? So, if you replace the false "J" in the name Joshua, with the "Y", what is the result? In the English world, the result would be Yoshua (pronounced Yahshua). This author has taken a little Hebrew and has been able to see that His name could be pronounced Yoshua (like Yoeshua), or Yahshua. The waw/vav as a vowel can carry all of the vowel sounds "a, e, i, o, u, and w (which is a double 'u')."

While the Christian world may follow their King James, leaders and rulers, as to the names God, the Lord, Jesus, Christ, etc., Scripture reveals that the leaders and kings of the earth have committed FORNICATION with the harlot (see, Psa. 2:1-3; Rev. 17:1-5; 18:3). Scripture also reveals that, "...the great dragon...that old serpent called the Devil and Satan...has deceived the WHOLE WORLD!" Rev. 12:9.

I know that you publish a little cartoon named "Reverend Twist Truth" where you show how so many of the Christian ministers are twisting the truth, but now it is evident that there is a little "Dr./Reverend Twist Truth" in yourself! You are in league with the kings and rulers of the earth. You are aiding people in committing FORNICATION with the Babylonian Harlot. Shame on you Dr. Botkin. The letters "Dr." that you use in front of your name surely represent the hard work



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that you exhibited to earn them, but you certainly haven't worked hard enough to reveal the truth!

Dr. Botkin: Hard-core SN believers are afraid to utter the words "GOD" or "Lord" when referring to the Creator. They insist that He must be addressed by His Hebrew name. Most SN literature gives a reader the impression that knowing the Hebrew name is more important than knowing God Himself.

J. Healan: There are three very important witnesses that reveal that we must call upon the name Yahweh for deliverance/salvation. They are, Joel (2:32), Peter (Acts 2:21), and Paul (Ro. 10:13). Go to an Interlinear and you will discover that Joel utilized the name Yahweh (יהוה) while Peter and Paul are quoting him under inspiration of the Holy Spirit! The English Scriptures substitute "the Lord" in those places. We **REFUSE TO UTILIZE FALSE INFERIOR SUBSTITUTES** that cannot and will not save! Also, Dr. Botkin, His name is not, was not, and never will be God! We want to utilize that which is true in worshipping and serving Him, not the false! I will remind you of the first two Scriptures quoted at the beginning once again.

Dr. Botkin: Much of what I have read in SN literature is dangerously close to the occultic thinking that existed in first century Gnosticism. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Christianity* (pg. 27) says this: "Heretical Gnostic systems combined magic and astrology with the Bible. The Hebrew name of God, IAO [*the Greek transliteration of YHWH – DB*], fascinated sorcerers by its vowels, always crucial in ancient magic."

Like first-century Gnostic sorcerers, many SN believers seem equally fascinated by the Hebrew name of God, and have made a fetish out of the Sacred Name. This in itself is not sorcery, of course, but it is in step in that direction. *Rotherham's Emphasized Bible*, a translation which has greatly influenced the SN movement, says in its introduction that "the name Yahweh has some inherent meaning of great force" and speaks of "some self-evident force" contained in the Sacred Name (pg. 26, 28). This sort of thinking can lead to linguistic superstition and worse. Noted Hebrew scholar David Bivin, in an article called "The Fallacy of Sacred Name

Bibles," writes: The use of correct formulas and correct pronunciations is very important in magic rites, but not in one's relationship with the God of Israel!" (*Jerusalem Perspective*, Nov.-Dec. 1991, pg. 12).

J. Healan: Let me get this right....Because we love the truth....because we love the true name of our Creator....because we utilize His great marvelous and wondrous name to declare His mighty and wondrous works, not our own works....because we want to declare the true holy righteous name to the world, the name of salvation....we are lumped in with the occultic world of witchcraft, sorcerers, and astrologers.

But what about all of those, including yourself, who prefer to utilize false names, titles, etc. such as the term "God." I will get into this a little later, Dr. Botkin. You simply haven't done your homework, and certainly need to if you want to continue to retain your earned letters (Dr.).

As for Mr. Bivin. He may be a Hebrew scholar, but why would he associate the CORRECT pronunciations with sorcery? Get it!? CORRECT as in TRUE, or TRUTH! Seems to me that the opposite to CORRECT is FALSE! It has been a while since I have been in school, but the system always wanted me to answer test questions **CORRECT**-ly. If they weren't CORRECT, then they were WRONG! My how things have changed with you and Mr. Bivin since the good old school days.

Dr. Botkin: The SN movement has produced a mixture of good and bad fruit. On the positive side, the SN movement has done a lot to help people see that the Sabbath, the Feasts, and the dietary laws are still valid for New Covenant believers. On the negative side, this movement has spawned a lot of rotten fruit. I am not in a position to say whether the good fruit outweighs the rotten fruit or vice versa. I will let God be the judge of that. I do not wish to judge, but I do need to warn people not to swallow rotten fruit. Because it will poison you.

J. Healan: Let's see....The Sabbath, feasts, and dietary laws are still in effect, but the truth about the Creator's name is rotten fruit? After all...that is what you are writing about and are contesting here. The Seventh day



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Sabbath is listed in the ten commandments, but the feasts, and dietary laws aren't, even though they should be observed. But the third commandment has to do with the forbidding of taking Yahweh's name in vain. This can also mean "counting it as useless, or unimportant." You are making a very crucial mistake by implying that the name of salvation is rotten fruit, and poison. I would urge you to quickly and deeply repent of this feeling. I know it's going to be difficult since you've had these feelings since 1993. You see, the real poison is your own attitude and feelings toward Yahweh's name and His people.

Dr. Botkin: The purpose of this article is not to attack people, but to expose errors. I do not wish to embarrass or publicly humiliate anyone. (This is why I will not be citing the sources when I quote from SN writers. If readers wish to know my sources, I will share that information privately.)

J. Healan: Not to attack people!? You have already accomplished that. You have only sought to embarrass and humiliate those who are Sacred Name believers. You may not call them by name, but most people will know them when they see them, and because of your own first few paragraphs here, you have sought to cause people to look upon Yahweh's people with suspicion, disrespect, and even contempt. You have, and are making some grievous errors yourself, Dr. Botkin, and I intend, with Yahweh's help through Yahshua, to expose them!

Dr. Botkin: Some minor thinking in a person's thinking can be relatively harmless. Unfortunately, some of the errors in the SN movement are not harmless. The proof of this statement is in the rotten fruit the movement has borne. The rotten fruit to which I refer is primarily a glaring lack of love for the brethren. We all know the importance of loving one's neighbor as one's self; we know that the fruit of the Spirit is love; we know about 1 Corinthians 13. We all know the importance of loving the brethren. And I have been reading SN literature regularly since the mid-1980s.

Indeed, many SN believers do not even consider the brethren their brethren. Christians who do not use the Hebrew names are often regarded as lost at best and

as devil worshippers at worst. One large SN organization printed these words in a newsletter last August: "Christianity calls 'God's' Son by the name 'Jesus'. Thus, those worshipping 'this son' are committing spiritual adultery!!" This is from one of the more tolerant SN organizations. Other SN writers have flatly stated that Christians who use the words "God," "Lord," and "Jesus Christ" are actually worshipping Satan.

J. Healan: What were the Scriptures that I reminded you of at the beginning, Dr. Botkin? "No lie is of the truth." A worshipper of Yahweh MUST worship Him in Spirit and in TRUTH. You CANNOT worship the TRUE CREATOR through the false names of Jesus, God, or the Lord! You, yourself, supposedly being a Bible scholar, should know that the Caesars of the Roman beast, the fourth kingdom of Daniel chapter 2, and the fourth great and terrible beast of Daniel chapter 7 have entered into the body of believers, taken over, and corrupted the truth into a lie under the sway and influence of their god Lucifer, the Devil, and Satan!

Frankly, Dr. Botkin, you have never been on the side of the SN believers who are persecuted, hated, and despised by the Christian ministers. We are trying to warn people out of love for our Creator, His true Son, His ways, and His kingdom to turn to the truth; to repent and give the honor and glory due Him and His name, but there is nothing but anger, distrust, bitterness, and hatred exhibited by them toward us. You are seeking to do the same thing, justify their error, by making it look like those who hold the truth are committing the errors. How sad.

Dr. Botkin: SN believers imagine a linguistic connection between the English *God* and Hebrew *Gad* ("luck, fortune"). Because the pronunciations of these words are very similar, SN believers claim that "God" is the god of luck. However, the fact that two words in two different languages sound the same is not proof that the two words are cognates. On the contrary, such is usually not the case. For example, Spanish *con* ("with") has no connection to English *cone*; German *nein* ("no") has no connection to English *nine*; Hebrew *ki* ("because") has no connection to English *key*; Yiddish *teler* ("plate") has no connection to English *teller*; Russian *tut* ("here") has



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no connection to English *toot*, et., etc.

Concerning the SN believers' ban on God because of its similarity to Gad, noted linguist and Hebraist Isaac Mozeson, author of *THE WORD: The Dictionary That Reveals the Hebrew Source of English*, wrote this in a personal letter to me: "if the word Gad were so terrible per se, there would be no tribe of Israel or prophet of King David by that glorious name. It seems I agree with you on these issues."

J. Healan: Nice try, Dr. Botkin, but it won't fly. You certainly have taken the same sounding words in other languages and the English all of which have different meanings. But *God* and *Gad* are both the same name. They both are names of deities. We read in Isa. 65:11, "But ye are they that forsake Yahweh, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Gad, (Gawd/ God) and that furnish the drink offering unto Meni." Of course, King James covered the truth up here by utilizing "the Lord" for Yahweh, "that troop" for Gad, and "that number" for Meni.

As you pointed out, Gad has to do with a troop, fortune, luck, fate, etc., while Meni has to do with numbering, or even destiny.

Now, let's take a look "deeply" into the word "God" itself. Here is what the *Encyclopedia Britannica 11th Edition*, Vol. 12, pg. 169 has to say about this word: **GOD**, the common Teutonic word for a personal object of religious worship. It is thus, like the Gr. *qeos* and Latin *deus*, applied to all those superhuman beings of the heathen mythologies who exercise power over nature and man and are often identified with some particular sphere of activity; and also to the visible material objects, whether an image of the supernatural being or a tree, pillar, &c. used as a symbol, **an idol**. The word "god," on the conversion of the Teutonic races to Christianity, was adopted as the name of the one Supreme Being, the Creator of the universe, and of the Persons of the Trinity. *The New English Dictionary* points out that whereas the old Teutonic type of the word is **neuter** (*emphasis mine*), corresponding to the Latin *numen*, in the Christian applications it becomes masculine. Popular etymology has connected the word with "good"; this is exemplified by the corruption of "God be with

you" into "good-bye." "God" is a word common to all Teutonic languages. In Gothic it is *Goth*; Dutch has the same form as English; Danish and Swedish have *Gud*, German *Gott*. According to *The New English Dictionary*, the original may be found in two Aryan roots, both of the form *gheu*, one of which means "to invoke," the other "to pour" (cf. Gr. *ceciu*); the last is used of sacrificial offerings. The word would thus mean the object either of religious invocation or of religious worship by sacrifice. It has been also suggested that the word might mean a "molten image" from the sense of "pour."

Here is what Wilfred Funk has to say about the word "God" in his book *Word Origins And Their Romantic Stories*; "The central word of all faiths is *God*, and the history of the title *God* is a tangle of guesses. The word *God* itself is related to similar words in Danish, Saxon, Old High German, Scandinavian, and other languages, and may even be related to an ancient Lithuanian word that referred to someone who practiced magic." (pg. 279)

As stated above in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, the original form for the word *God* may be found in two Aryan roots, both of the form *gheu*. Robert Claiborne writes in his book *The Roots of English*; GHEU-1, L *fundere*, fus-, to pour, whence the FUNNEL through which you pour things, and the FOUNDRY in which FUSED (molten) metal is poured into molds. Figurative uses include CONFUSE ("pour together"), DIFFUSE ("pour apart"), PROFUSE ("pouring forth"), TRANSFUSE ("pour across"), and REFUND ("pour back"). To REFUSE is another kind of "pouring back" – though some derive the word from a quite different root. A more remote L relative is *futilis*, easily emptied, leaky, pouring water into a leaky vessel is FUTILE.

This last definition concerning the "leaky vessel" is what Yahweh was referring to when he inspired Jeremiah to declare, "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, **and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.**" (Jer. 2:13)

GHEU-, to yawn or gape (? Related to ghai-), whence



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the GUMS you expose when you do. A Gk word for a yawning chasm gave us CHAOS, from which a seventeenth-century Dutch scientist coined GAS.

GHEU (h)-, to call, invoke, whence the Gc GOD one invokes, and GIDDY – a word much weakened from its original sense, “possessed by a god, insane.”

A Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament has this to say about GOD (-s): 1. θεός, God. **A name reclaimed from the heathen**, and used in N.T. for the true God. Various derivations, ancient and modern, have been proposed, but it is nearly certain that its origin is from the East and comes from the Sanscrit root, DIU-S (pronounced *dyus*), which means (1) *masc.*, fire, the sun, (2) *as fem.* Subst., sky or heaven.

[Wherever the Sun shines in the world he has been or is, worshipped as God, because he gives light to Heaven and life to earth; and heaven was in turn worshipped as the abode of the Sun, but the object of adoration was Light and Life,* or heaven either as the abode of the Sun, or as personified. Then DIAUS was procreating or generative power dwelling in heaven. The Father of light and life.]

WOW! Dr. Botkin, look at all that is associated and affiliated with the word GOD! Why does a non-important country bumpkin like me have to point these things out to a Dr., for crying out loud!? All of the things, and more, that you have accused us of lie at the feet of none other than GOD and those who utilize that term for their elohim!!!! There’s magic, paganism, heathenism, idolatry, idols, sun worship, chaos, even INSANITY!!! And you thought we SN believers had problems! (Are you beginning to see how the serpent has deeply deceived the whole world, including yourself?)

However, there’s still a little more to the story. You see, through the actions of our own leaders, the secret meaning of God and the association with Gad is revealed. The people who print our money put “In God we trust” on it. Let’s see if you can understand this....remember the name Meni (numberer)? It just so happens that our word “money” comes from, and is associated with Meni. Our money (Meni) is numbered

out to us in increments of cents, nickels, dimes, quarters, half dollars, dollars, etc. Our money (Meni) is considered to be our Fortune (Gad/God). Are you beginning to get the gist? Our money is the God/Gad (Fortune) that we trust in.

Oh, one other thing before I move on. Remember Garner Ted Armstrong? Back in the late 1980s, or early 1990s he wrote a little booklet entitled *What Is God’s Name?* Of course, he never answered the question truthfully, but he did reveal in the booklet that the word God is related to Taurus the Bull! So this means that just as the Israelites made the golden calf in Moses’ absence, the so-called followers of Yahshua the Messiah have done the same thing in His absence. They have changed His name and the name of His Father and their common noun (Elohim) also into the word “God” which is related to Taurus the Bull. What goes around, comes around. History forgotten is history repeated.

Dr. Botkin: SN believers avoid using even the Hebrew *Adonai* because of its similarity to the Greek god Adonis. Some refuse to transliterate *Adonai*, even though Scripture uses this word over 200 times to refer to the Creator. I have even seen one SN Bible that translated *Adonai* as “Yahweh.” This is not honest translation; it is deliberately misrepresenting what the Hebrew Scripture really says. Isaac Mozeson wrote (in the letter previously mentioned): “I don’t shun the Hebrew ADoNe (master, lord) + suffix AI simply because Adonis is a pagan god or because the Brits have a House of Lords.”

The Hebrew Bible refers to the Creator as *Adonai* over 200 times. It is linguistic superstition to avoid a word that the Hebrew Bible freely uses. Yes, it is possible that the Greeks borrowed the Hebrew *Adonai* and used it to refer to their god Adonis. So what? We know that Yahweh is the true Adonai/Elohim/Lord/God. The fact that pagans use some of the same nouns for their idols is no reason for us to stop using the words. If the pagans were to say that their gods are “good” and “strong,” would SN believers feel a need to avoid these two adjectives and use different synonymous adjectives such as “beneficent” and “powerful”?

J. Healan: You’re right, Dr. Botkin, that we should not



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avoid the Hebrew words that Yahweh utilizes to reveal Himself through. However, now we're getting some- place! By your own admission, it is linguistic superstition to refuse to utilize a word that appears over 200 times which refers to the Creator! I agree with you. But the real LINGUISTIC SUPERSTITION comes in concerning the major word that the Creator utilizes to identify Himself and that is HIS NAME YAHWEH! It occurs around 6,823 times in the Hebrew Scriptures themselves, yet you won't find it in any of the English Bibles except the ones that the SN believers have restored. If it's LINGUISTIC SUPERSTITION to avoid a word that appears 200 times, then how much greater is the LINGUISTIC SUPERSTITION that avoids a word that occurs at least 6,823 times in the Old Testament alone!? Your LINGUISTIC SUPERSTITION is turned back on your own head! Your own words are turned back on your own head!

Dr. Botkin: Most SN literature substitutes Mighty One and Master for God and Lord. However, the terms mighty one and master are every bit as generic as god and lord. This is evident even in SN literature, which refers to false gods as "mighty ones," the only difference being capital letters. This is not spiritual progress; it is simply reinventing the wheel.

J. Healan: You should be more specific because of the many places where the words God and Lord appear. Both words have been utilized as substitutes for the name Yahweh. It's when they are substitutes for Elohim that "mighty one (-s)" and Adonai that "Master/ Sovereign" are utilized. Due to the meaning and background of the word "god/God" we avoid it, but there is nothing wrong with substituting Master or Sovereign for Adonai, even though Lord would also be an acceptable substitute. However, with the profligate usage of "the Lord" as a substitute for the name Yahweh, the term "Lord" has been abandoned by Sacred Name believers.

We know the Scripture that says, "How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart; **Which think to cause my people to forget my name** by their dreams which they tell every man to his neigh-

bour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal," Jer. 23:26-27. It just so happens that Baal is equivalent to Lord. The King James and other English Bibles have accomplished and fulfilled these verses because of the use of the term "the Lord" (HaBaal) the people have forgotten the Creator's name. You are evidently one of those prophets because you are with- standing the TRUTH about the Creator's name.

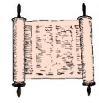
Dr. Botkin: The New Testament, by its glaring silence on the "Name" issue, also refutes SN teaching. If avoid- ing generic titles and using the Hebrew names is so vital to one's salvation and spirituality, why do the New Testament writers consistently refer to God by the generic Greek titles Theos and Kurios (words which can also refer to pagan gods and to human lords)? And why do they consistently refer to the Messiah by the Greek form of His name, Iesous Xristos? The New Testament writers could have written the Hebrew characters into the Greek script, but there is no solid evidence that they did any such thing. They used Theos and Kurios, just as the Hebrew Scriptures use Elohim and Adonai.

It is very important to note this: Even when they were directly quoting Old Testament Scripture, the New Testament writers used the generic Greek titles as substi- tutes for the Sacred Name. Many Old Testament verses which contain the Sacred Name are quoted in the New Testament, yet the Sacred Name itself never once ap- pears in New Testament. A generic title is substituted every single time. If the New Testament is to have any bearing whatsoever on our theology, we cannot ignore the fact that the New Testament writers used generic titles as substitutes for the Sacred Name.

The only argument SN proponents can use to try to refute these facts is to accuse "wicked scribes" of changing the New Testament manuscripts. Some go so far as to claim that the entire New Testament was origi- nally written in Hebrew, complete with the Sacred Name, of course. History tells us that Matthew original- ly wrote his gospel in Hebrew, but there is no reason to suppose that the rest of the New Testament was origi- nally written in Hebrew. On the contrary, when one considers the fact that the epistles were addressed to congregations composed primarily of Greek speaking



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believers who knew little if any Hebrew, the idea seems ludicrous. To accuse wicked scribes of tampering with the text is circular reasoning, and has no basis in historical or linguistic fact.

J. Healan: No solid evidence? I will show you the solid evidence right out of the verses of the Scriptures, "For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of the Messiah**: for it is the power of Yahweh unto salvation to every one that believeth; **to the Jew first, and also to the Greek**," Ro. 1:16.

Peter says to the people of his day, "Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which Yahweh made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. **Unto you first** Yahweh, having raised up his Son Yahshua, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities," Acts 3:25-26.

Paul continues, "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of Elohim; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, **of the Jew first**, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, **to the Jew first**, and also to the Gentile: For there is no respect of persons with Elohim," Ro. 2:5-11.

Peter declares, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of Elohim: and **if it first begin at us**, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of Elohim?" 1 Pet. 4:17.

So now, Dr. Botkin, this is a test. Do you believe, trust in the Scriptures and the things of the Spirit, or do you just believe in what you can see, hear, smell, taste, feel? As we know, trusting in the Scriptures is a thing of faith. The world only trusts in the five senses, but the believer trusts in the Spirit and what the Spirit says. The Spirit says "to the Jew first, and then to the Gen-

tile/Greek."

Here is what E. W. Bullinger admits in *The Companion Bible* Appendix 94 entitled *The Greek Text of the New Testament* III. The Language; "With regard to this, it is generally assumed that, because it comes to us in Greek, the N.T. ought to be in classical Greek, and is then condemned because it is not! Classical Greek was at its prime some centuries before; and in the time of our Lord, there were several reasons why the N.T. was not written in classical Greek.

The writers were Hebrew; and thus, while the language is Greek, the thoughts and idioms are Hebrew. These Idioms or Hebraisms are generally pointed out in the notes of *The Companion Bible*. **If the Greek of the N.T. be regarded as an inspired translation from Hebrew or Aramaic originals, most of the various readings would be accounted for and understood.**

I happen to have portions of the Babylonian Talmud (Soncino Edition). The Glossary, of course, gives their usage of words and definitions. Here is what is found on page 738:

MINUTH. Heresy, the belief in more than one Power, especially Judeo-Christianity.

On page 738:

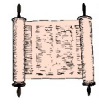
MIN pl. *minim*, (Lit. 'kind', 'species'); (a) a heretic, esp. (b) a member of the sect of the early Jewish Christians.

In the book entitled *Shabbath* (pg. 569), here is what is stated; Come and hear: The blank spaces and the Books of the **Minim** may not be saved from a fire, but they must be burnt in their place, they and the **Divine Names occurring in them**. Now surely it means the blank portions of a Scroll of the Law? No: the blank spaces of the Books of **Minim**. Seeing that we may not save the Books of **Minim** themselves, need their blank spaces be stated? – This is its meaning: And the Books of **Minim** are like blank spaces.

It was stated in the text: The blank spaces and the Books of the **Minim**, we may not save them from a fire. R. Jose said: On weekdays one must cut out **the Divine**



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Names which they contain, hide them. And burn the rest. R. Tarfon said: May I bury my son if **I would not burn them together with their Divine Names** if they come to my hand. For even if one pursued me to slay me.

James Trimm writes, “By 325 C.E. anti-Semitism and the priority given in the West to the Greek Scriptures had solidified. Constantine invaded Rome, making himself emperor. Constantine proclaimed Christianity to be the Catholic (universal) religion, thus making Christianity the enforced state religion of the Roman Empire. Before this occurred one could be killed for being a Christian, afterwards one could be killed for not being a “Christian.” Constantine, who was an anti-Semite, called the council of Nicea in 325 C.E. to standardize Christianity. Jews were excluded from the meeting. Jewish practices were officially banned and the Greek translations officially replaced the original Semitic Scriptures.” (*The Semitic Origin of the New Testament*, pg. 20)

Also, Dr. Botkin, if you will remember the Assyrian Empire with its great city Nineveh were believed to be mythological, and untrue, until archeologists amazed the world by discovering the ruins of the city in the 18th century.

This also reminds me of our own idioms. Another elder and myself were in the Philippines and were in a discussion with some Philipinos concerning another man who was teaching a false teaching. We American elders said, “One of these days he is going to have to eat crow,” whereupon one of the Philipinos exclaimed, “Eat crow!? Isn’t that unclean!?” We knew the idiom, but he didn’t. We had to explain it to him. This is what Dr. Bullinger was getting at.

Dr. Botkin: Theories have been put forth to try to debunk the Greek New Testament. Some SN proponents have claimed that Paul could not have known Greek well enough to write his epistles in that language. Jews did not learn Greek, we are told by SN writers. We know from Acts 21:37 that Paul knew Greek well enough to converse in it. I also found this information in a pamphlet: “The Oxyrinchus Papyri shows that even Jewish children could read and write Greek. The Greek

language was common in Palestine, even though the vernacular was Aramaic and the Sacred tongue was Hebrew.” It is very ironic that this information appears in a pamphlet written by the late A. B. Traina, the man who is regarded as the “granddaddy” of the SN Movement.

Some SN believers argue against a Greek New Testament by stating that the Greek text is awkward and clumsy, “poor Greek”; therefore the New Testament must be a translation of a Hebrew original – which, it is assumed, contained the Hebrew names, of course. Do these SN believers know Greek well enough to tell that the New Testament is a poor translation of a Hebrew original? Is the Greek of the New Testament so poor that a Hebrew original must be assumed? I do not know Greek well enough to answer that question, so I will let two scholars who know Greek better than I do answer the question. Dr. Brad Young, a present day scholar of great repute, states that Paul, in his epistles, “gives evidence of his bi-lingual abilities by writing in Greek like a native” (“Paul the Pharisee,” *Yavo Digest* 19:4, Sept 1997, pg. 15). Robin Griffith-Jones, master of London’s Temple Church and formerly a New Testament teacher at Oxford University, says that Luke used “very sophisticated Greek. He would have been asked to write New York Times op-ed pieces” (“Gospels according to new book,” *Peoria Journal Star*, 5/28/00).

In 1978 George Howard wrote an article in *Biblical Archaeology Review*. Howard did not argue for an original Hebrew New Testament in this article, but he did theorize that the writers of the Greek New Testament might have written God’s name in the Hebrew characters when they wrote their original manuscripts. A SN believer sent me a copy of this article, complete with his complimentary underlining, arrows, brackets, and exclamation marks in the margins. I marked a few more things in the article myself. In Howard’s short essay, I circled the following words: “....suggested that....suggested....argued that....it seems to me....is hardly likely that....In all likelihood....very probably....suggests that....no doubt....Perhaps....may haveAssuming this to be generally correct....in all probability....probably....no doubt....must have taken....must



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have meant....was probably....probably....may be known....”

The appearance of these words and phrases of ambiguity on just one and one-half pages of text tells me that Howard himself is not very certain of his theory. Yes SN people will swallow an unproven theory simply because it agrees with their doctrine.

J. Healan: So your doctrine is far more sound because you base all of your research on FACTS! Is that right, Dr. Botkin! It is a FACT that Yahshua said He was sent only to the house of Israel (Mt. 15:24). Why, then, would He inspire the New Testament/New Covenant to only be written to the Gentile, non-Hebrew Greeks? Am I missing something here?

Martin Luther said, “(“If I were younger I would want to learn this language (Hebrew), because **without it one can never truly understand the Holy Scriptures**. For the New Testament, although it is written in Greek, is full of Hebraisms and betrays the Hebrew style of writing. Therefore they have rightly said, the Hebrews drink from the spring, the Greeks out of the small stream which flows from the spring, but the Latins drink out of the pools.”) —Martin Luther, *Tischreden* (“Table Talk”), in the Weimar edition, vol. 1, p. 525.

Did you get what he said? “....without it (the original Hebrew language) one can never truly understand the Holy Scriptures!”

Here is what Dr. Howard did say in parts of the article that you are questioning, or doubting, “Christian Scriptures frequently quote passages from the Old Testament in which the divine name YHWH appears in the original Hebrew. In these quotations, however, the divine name is translated into the Greek word *kyrios* (Lord), or occasionally *theos* (God). Both of these words are generic words for God, not limited to the Hebrew God whose name is Yahweh and who is represented in the Hebrew Bible by the Tetragrammaton. Most of these Old Testament quotations in the New come from the Septuagint, a Greek translation of the Old Testament made by Jews in Pre-Christian times. The Septuagint (or at least the extant, later Christian copies of it) usually renders the Tetragrammaton by *kyrios*; the

New Testament simply follows this practice.

In 1944, W. G. Waddell discovered the remains of an Egyptian papyrus scroll (Papyrus Fuad 266) dating to the first or second century B.C. which included part of the Septuagint. In no instance, however, was YHWH translated *kyrios*. Instead the Tetragrammaton itself – in square Aramaic letters – was written into the Greek text. This parallels the Qumran Covenanters’ use of the palaeo-Hebrew script for the Divine Name in a document which was otherwise written in square Aramaic script.

An even closer parallel to the practice Waddell found in Papyrus Fuad 266 comes from second century A.D. Jewish translations of the Old Testament into Greek by Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotion. In 1897, F. C. Burkitt published some fragments of Aquila’s Greek Old Testament which had been found in the debris of a geniza (a storeroom for worn out manuscripts) of the old synagogue in Cairo. These fragments which are underwriting of palimpsest scraps clearly show the Hebrew Tetragrammaton in paleo-Hebrew script written into the otherwise Greek text. A number of other similar examples have also come to light.

Origen’s Hexapla^x (lacking the Hebrew column). All the columns show the Tetragrammaton written in square Aramaic script, although the texts are otherwise written in Greek.” *Biblical Archeology Review*, March 1978, pgs. 12-13.

There was nothing unsure about these statements, Dr. Botkin! You read the same article, but because of your own personal bias, you wanted to find something that would substantiate your bias.

Dr. Howard also says, “It seems to me, that a much better case can be made that the system of contractions is of Gentile Christian origin. The divine name YHWH was and is the most sacred word in the Hebrew language. So it is hardly likely that Jews of any sort would have removed it from their Bible. Furthermore, we know now from discoveries in Egypt and the Judean desert that Jews wrote the Tetragrammaton in Hebrew even in their Greek texts. In all likelihood Jewish Christians felt the same way about the divine name and con-



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tinued to preserve it in Hebrew in their bibles. A famous Rabbinic passage (Talmud Shabbat 13:5) discusses the problem of destroying heretical texts (very probably including books of Jewish Christians). The problem arises for the rabbinic writer because the heretical texts contain the divine name, and their wholesale destruction would include the destruction of the divine name. This further suggests that Jewish Christians did not translate the divine name into Greek.

But Gentile Christians, unlike Jewish Christians, had no traditional attachment to the Hebrew Tetragrammaton and no doubt often failed even to recognize it. Gentile scribes who had never before seen Hebrew writing (especially in its archaic form) could hardly be expected to preserve the divine name. Perhaps this contributed to the use of surrogates like *kyrios* and *theos* for the tetragrammaton." (*IBID*, pg. 14)

Now, Dr. Botkin, you can be a Gentile Greek Christian who completely disregards the importance of the true Hebrew name of the Creator, and also the Messiah's, which obviously you are, but we of the SN movement will uphold it as close to their true natures as is possible. Why? Because we desire TRUTH and not FALSEHOOD!

The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures (1985 edition) states: "Restoring the Divine Name, Jehovah: The evidence is that the original text of the Christian Greek Scriptures has been tampered with, the same as the text of the LXX has been (See App 1A, B.) Sometimes during the second or third centuries C.E., the Tetragrammaton (YHWH, or JHVH) was eliminated from the Greek text by copyists who did not understand or appreciate the divine name of who developed an aversion to it, possibly under the influence of anti-Semitism. Instead of YHWH (JHVH) they substituted the words *Ky'ri-os*, "Lord," and *The-os'*, "God." (pgs. 10-11)

Of course, we understand that their promotion of "Jehovah" is in error, but the fact is that the Scriptures have been altered, tampered with to take away the knowledge of the name of the Creator, which is what He Himself declares, "How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? yea, they are

prophets of the deceit of their own heart; Which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbour, as their fathers have forgotten my name for Baal," Jer. 23:26-27. Remember that "Baal" is equivalent to "Lord," so Yahweh prophesied ahead of time what would happen. It has happened, and you are one of those who continues to cause His people to forget His name!

They continue, "In view of this, what is the modern translator to do? Is he justified or authorized in entering the divine name, Jehovah, into a translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures? In the LXX the Greek words *Ky'ri-os* and *The-os'* have been used to crowd out the distinctive name of the Supreme deity. Every comprehensive Greek-English dictionary states that these two Greek words have been used as equivalents of the divine name. Hence, the modern translator is warranted in using the divine name as an equivalent of those two Greek words, that is, at places where the writers of the Christian Greek Scriptures quote verses, passages, and expressions from the Hebrew Scriptures or from the LXX where the divine name occurs. (*IBID*)

In the "Books In Brief" section of *Biblical Archeology Review*, Mar./Apr. 1991, there is a write up on Judean Desert Discoveries concerning The Greek Minor Prophets Scroll From Nahal Hever (8HevXIIGr) The Seiyal Collection I)....which says, "Unlike the Qumran texts, which are mostly in Hebrew, this minor prophet's scroll is in Greek. Thus the siglum for the text: 8HevXIIGr, which tells us that it came from Cave 8 of Nahal Hever and is a text of the 12 minor prophets in Greek. The date of the scroll is uncertain. Peter Parsons of Christ Church, Oxford, who wrote the section of the volume on dating the scroll, opts for a date in the first century B.C. Other scholars suggest a range between 50 B.C., or 50 A.D.

Although the text is Greek, one word, and one word only, repeatedly appears in Hebrew – the tetragrammaton, the four Hebrew letters YHVH, often spelled and pronounced Yahweh, that are the ineffable name of God. Moreover, the tetragrammaton is written in this scroll not in the square Aramaic Hebrew Script used at the time the scroll was written, but in the palaeo-Hebrew script used before the Babylonian Exile in



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the sixth century B.C.” (pg. 4)

As for the Jewish people of the land of Canaan just before and after Yahshua’s day, they did hate the Greeks and Greek language because of the Maccabean conflict wherein Antiochus Epiphanes hated the Hebrews so much that he forced them to eat pork, forsake the Sabbath, anyone found circumcised were slain, he enforced the Greek language in lieu of the Hebrew, placed a bust of Zeus in the Holy of Holies...no wonder they hated the Greeks and the Greek language so much that even Josephus admitted that the language of the land in the first century was Hebrew and that Greek was very difficult for him to enunciate (*Ant.* 20:11:2).

Dr. Botkin, you say that the SN people will swallow an unproven theory simply because it agrees with their doctrine. But I am presenting PROOFS to you that contradict and expose your own swallowing of untrue things only because you want to be accepted by the scholars of the day even when they can be proven wrong. I do hope that you read this treatise in its entirety before you decide to round file it.






Dr. Botkin: One major reason SN believers misunderstand the “Name” issue is because they do not realize the broader meaning of the Hebrew word *shem* (usually translated “name”). When SN believers read a verse that says something about “the name of Yahweh,” they think mainly of terms of nomenclature, the word that is used to address someone. *Shem* means much more than just “name” in this narrow sense of nomenclature, however. *Shem* also means the reputation, honor, or character of the person. Any good lexicon will confirm this. Isaac Mozeson also confirms this in his letter to me: “Also SHeM means ‘repute’ more than merely ‘name.’ The problems of the ‘sacred name believers’ will lessen when they consider this.”

Even in English we use the word name in its broader sense: “You’ve ruined the family name!” Such a statement does not mean that the person has altered the pronunciation of his surname or changed it to a generic name like “Jones.” It simply means that he has brought shame and reproach to the family by his behavior.

J. Healan: Yes, Dr. Botkin, the Hebrew *shem* does mean

honor, reputation, character, even authority, but just who is it that has the SUPREME HONOR?... the SUPREME REPUTATION?...the SUPREME CHARACTER?...the SUPREME AUTHORITY? What name goes with all those things! It is the name Yahweh!

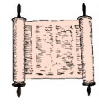
When someone is sent on a mission in the name (Heb. = *shem*) of the Queen of England, what name (Heb. = *shem*) is really giving authority (Heb. = *shem*) for the mission? There was a man who had the honor (Heb. = *shem*) and title of “Home-run King” for many years. Hmmm... There is the word “honor” and even the word “title”, but without the name (*shem*) associated with it, there is no clarity. Who has the “honor” (Heb. = *shem*) of being the first man to step onto the surface of the moon? Specific names are associated with all of these questions, Dr. Botkin.

As a matter of fact, the Pictorial Hebrew reveals the true meaning of “*shem*.” “*Shem*” would be written as;  in the Pictorial Hebrew. The letter “*shin*” (L) is the picture of teeth with which we eat, consume, destroy. The “*mem*” (M) is a picture of water which is generally looked upon as chaos. So what does this mean? You see plenty of people in this world who you don’t know because you don’t know their name (*shem*/). You may even have seen some of the people and be familiar with their appearance, but still don’t know their name (*shem*/). So you are in chaos (M) as to their personal identity. Once you learn what their name (*shem*/) is, then you have destroyed (L) the chaos (M). Let’s take it a step further so maybe you will completely understand. What if a person was born into this world and never given a name (*shem*/)? Neither he himself, nor anyone else would ever know who he was. That’s chaos (M).

Dr. Botkin: The Scriptures say many things about the name of Yahweh. There are verses that speak about misusing, blaspheming, or shaming His name. There are verses about knowing, glorifying, praising, trusting in, and speaking of the name of Yahweh. These verses are not referring to the correct pronunciation of the four-lettered Tetragrammaton; they are speaking about the character and reputation of Yahweh. Thus, trusting in “the name” of Yahweh means that we trust in His char-



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acter and His reputation, not in the correct pronunciation of his nomenclature. A person who trusts only in the correct pronunciation is reducing the name of Yahweh to nothing more than a magical incantation.

J. Healan: So this is what you think we are all about? As long as we can just pronounce it right, nothing else matters? Wow! Your understanding of the Sacred Name people is quite shallow! You really have judged us as nothing more than empty headed, addlepated people who just go around speaking the name of the Creator for no reason at all. We give Him the glory, honor, praise, adoration, love, character, authority, obedience, etc. that belongs to Him BECAUSE OF HIS NAME! Because of Who He is! He is Yahweh. He is Elohim. He is the Creator. He is the ever-living, all wise, all knowing, all powerful one who abides in the Holy of Holies. He is the One Who brought us into this world and will do His pleasure in us!

But since nomenclature doesn't matter (to you), then what do we call Him? God? That's a false name, not acceptable because He and His word is truth, and no lie is of the truth. The Lord? That's a false name, not acceptable because He and His word is truth, and no lie is of the truth. How about the Greek Zeus? (I'm being foolish.) But its allowable to the world for the Teutons to call Him by their pagan, heathenistic name, why is it not allowable to utilize the name of the Greek deity, or the Roman, or the Persian, or the Babylonian, or the Egyptian?????

You have gotten so caught up in attacking the SN people that you have gotten very foolish and ridiculous. Since nomenclature doesn't matter to you, what if we call you Nurse (instead of Dr. [I know it's a different Dr. This is just for argument sake.) Billy Watkins? Would you still answer if someone called you that? Just what name do you want written in the Lamb's book of life? What if that name has to be so correct that if it were misspelled, you would be cast out of the kingdom? Would nomenclature be more important to you then? I would suspect so.

Most people are actually offended if their name is misspelled, or mispronounced. How much more important is the Creator's name?

Dr. Botkin: Some readers may think I am opposed to using the name of Yahweh, but this is not the case. In our congregation, we utter the name every Sabbath when we face Jerusalem and say the Shema: "Hear, O Israel, Yahweh our God, Yahweh is One." Every day throughout the week, I utter the Name in private prayer more times than I can count. However, I do avoid using the Name in casual conversation, because I truly regard it as a Sacred Name which should be used only in a sacred context. I have witnessed some SN believers using the Name in a light-hearted manner in casual conversation, even while joking around.

J. Healan: So, you use the name Yahweh in conjunction with the false term "God!" And then you condemn others for using it in what you might call common, or even jokingly? Something is wrong with this picture, Dr. Botkin. Maybe you can figure it out someday.

Dr. Botkin: My main complaint against the SN movement is not the use or non-use of the Name per se, but the fact that the linguistic superstition about "God" and "Lord" unnecessarily alienates and separates brethren from one another. The linguistic superstition discredits SN believers and gives Christians an excuse to reject everything else that is being restored through the Messianic movement – the Sabbath, the Feasts, the dietary laws, etc. Paul warned Timothy about teachers who are continually "doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings [suspicions]" (1 Tim. 6:4). I cannot think of a more accurate description of the SN movement.

J. Healan: The truth comes out! You love the false word "God" so much that you had rather substitute His name with that false pagan word, that I have already explained to you where it comes from when applied to a deity! You had rather utilize the equivalent to Baal (Lord) than utilize the true name Yahweh. You refuse to openly repent and do what is right. You are ashamed of His name. You may use it in the Shema, and utilize it in prayer, but you are ashamed to embrace the truth and openly reveal what you are doing in secret. Shame on you Dr. Botkin!

Dr. Botkin: SN writers also discredit themselves in the eyes of the intelligent, thinking people by their sloppy



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scholarship. Some of it is so pathetic that calling it “sloppy scholarship” is actually a great overstatement and a compliment. SN writers often try to prove a point by making long, detailed linguistic arguments based on the details of a Hebrew word. They end up proving nothing to people who know Hebrew. All they end up doing is advertising in the most embarrassing manner their ignorance of linguistics and the Hebrew language.

J. Healan: Dr. Botkin, your own scholarship has been proven to be sloppy here. People who live in glass houses shouldn’t cast stones. However, you are right about their ignorance of the Hebrew language. However, most people who have knowledge of the Hebrew language still fail to understand the pictorial make-up of most Hebrew words. Just like our people may have a handle of the English language, but still don’t know the etymological make-up of the words that they use.

Dr. Botkin: I know a brother who leads a large Messianic organization based in Jerusalem. I once asked this brother what he thought about the SN movement. “We have scholars in Jerusalem who have done nothing but study the Hebrew texts for their entire lives, and even they are not 100% certain how God’s name is pronounced,” he said. “And yet we get letters from people in places like Arkansas telling us that they know exactly how the Name is pronounced, even though they have never studied Hebrew.” (No offense to people in Arkansas. He could have named any other state.)

J. Healan: This is interesting! Even the *Encyclopedia Judaica* admits that the pronunciation is Yahweh. I know a Rabbi who took Hebrew as a young child. When he was reading the Scriptures and came to the Tetragrammaton he said “Yahweh”. He reported that his instructor’s face turned bright red with anger and warned him to never say that name again. Someone knows something and are purposely holding back. Even you admit that you use Yahweh. The truth of the matter is that Yahweh said He was going to take His name out of the mouth of Judah (Jer. 44:26). While it says those who went down into Egypt, but the Kaballah has to do with Egypt, even America is a modern day Egypt. Look at the back of the dollar bill. They use the excuse that the name is too holy, but to them it is

blasphemy to pronounce the name. There certainly was no restriction on pronouncing in Biblical times. Why would there be now?

Dr. Botkin: One thing that has been cropping up in SN literature in recent years is the alteration of certain Hebrew words. The Hebrew word for Judah is no longer transliterated as *Yehudah*; now it is *YAHudah*. Jacob is now written *YAHakob* instead of *Ya’akov*. Jerusalem is no longer *Yerushalayim*; now it is *YAHrushalayim* (or, according to one writer, *YAHUWSHELEM*). Even Messiah is changed from *Mashiach* to *Mesi-YAH*. It seems that whenever SN people see the letter “Y” in a Hebrew word, they think that there should be an “H” after it, so they remedy the problem by restoring the missing “H” that the wicked scribes allegedly removed in their attempt to suppress the Name. Anyone who knows Hebrew can see the foolishness of this. One SN writer (who since has declared that Yeshua of Nazareth was a false Messiah), when trying to explain why Joseph’s name was really *YAH-sef* instead of *Yosef*. Maybe it doesn’t take a lot of imagination to see this, but it certainly takes some imagination to see it. It also takes complete ignorance of the fact that the *yo-* prefix is the common, standard prefix that is used to conjugate third-person, masculine singular, future tense verbs in this category.

One of the most bizarre allegations I have seen in SN literature is the claim that the word *Hallelujah* is “a hybrid with one word of Hebrew and one word of Greek.” The SN writer who made this amazing discovery has “unleavened the hybrid” and restored the “correct” pronunciation for us. According to this SN writer, we should be saying “Halle-atah-YaHVah” instead of *Hallelujah*.” This erroneous conclusion would never have occurred if the writer had known that the plural imperative is formed by adding a *vav* suffix to the verb. This is something that a beginning Hebrew student learns in *ulpan* within the first couple weeks of study.

In another recent article a SN brother writes about the different names people use to refer to the Messiah. This writer tells his readers that the Yeshu form used by unbelieving Jews is made up of three Hebrew letters



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which can from an acronym for “may his name and memory be blotted out.” This information is true. The three Hebrew words are “yimach sh’mo v’zikhro.” (See Stern’s Jewish NT Commentary, pg. 5) However, this SN writer tells us that the three Hebrew words are “Yiddish sh’mo w’zither.” This gross mis-information does not appear in some self-published rag that is obscure and unknown to SN people. It appears in a glossy SN periodical that has been around since 1937. If SN believers want to be taken seriously, they have to do better than that. And they have to do better than the SN believer who ended his letter of rebuke to me with these words: “I am shure you mean well, but lets speak the truth in love.”

J. Healan: What you write here is true. However, just because these people are somewhat ignorant doesn’t mean that the Sacred Name isn’t important. We are all to, “Study to shew thyself approved unto Yahweh, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth,” 2 Tim. 2:15. The Scriptures reveal how important the true names are. You should also remember that the enemy sows tares among the wheat.

I want to finish by revealing what the *Chumash* (a rabbinic commentary on the Torah) say about the name Yahweh, “Rabbinical commentary has this to say concerning the first introduction of the name Yahweh in the Scriptures (Gen. 2:4, “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that **Yahweh Elohim** made the earth and the heavens.”) - יהוה אֱלֹהִים - *HaSHEM God*. This is the first mention in the Torah of the **in His Attribute of Mercy**. At first, God created the world exclusively with the Attribute of Justice [*Elohim*], because the ideal state is for Man to be judged according to his deeds, without a need for special mercy, but God knew that Man cannot survive without mercy and forbearance. Therefore **He added the Name signifying mercy**, to teach that He would temper justice with compassion (*Rashi* to 1:1). The Name יה-וה-י also signifies the eternity of God, because its letters are also those of the words יהיָה וְהָיָה הָיָה, *He was, is, and will be*. In

the words of *Rambam’s* fourth principle of faith, God ‘Is the very first and the very last.’ Everything in the created universe must have a moment when it came into existence, but God is infinite; He transcends time. In recognition of this concept, the Four-letter Name is often translated the Eternal One. **This is also the proper Name of God.**” (*The Stone Edition of The Chumash*, p. 11)

His name Yahweh is the name of mercy! Elohim (God?) has to do with justice and judgment! Do you not understand what has happened here!?! The serpent has deceived man to take away the name of mercy so that what is left is Elohim, God, justice, judgment! He has also deceived the believers in the Messiah to embrace another name (a counterfeit) so that the only name given under heaven among men for salvation which is Yahshua (יהושע), because Yahshua means “Yahweh the Savior,” or “The salvation of Yahweh,” remains hidden.

We can understand this principle of “mercy” by utilizing the Pictorial Hebrew. יהוה looks like this in Pictorial Hebrew יהוה. Reading from right to left, we have the *yod* (י) which is the picture of a hand, *hei* (ה) which has to do with revelation, behold, lo, *waw* (ו) which is the picture of a nail or tent peg, and finally *hei* (ה) which again has to do with revelation. Thus, we firstly get the idea of “hand revealed, nail revealed,” which is what Yahshua did with Thomas, “Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and **behold my hands**; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing,” Jn. 20:27.

Thomas responded, “My Master and my Elohim.” The Hebrew would be, “*Adonai ve Elohi!*” However, we can also look at it another way. The hand (י) is revealed (ה), that establishes (ו) grace (ה)!” A nail or tent peg (ו) is utilized to pull things together, or hold, or establish something, like a tent. The *hei* (ה) also serves as the number 5, which, in the spiritual significance of numbers, is the number for grace. Thus, the name Yahweh (יהוה/יהוה) is the pre-existent name for the Savior Yahshua. This is the reason that we must call upon the name Yahweh for salvation.



Y. E. A.



I know this may be a little long and maybe even laborious, but I had to cover all the bases. I encourage you to no longer be the hypocrite who attacks those who love the Sacred Name as being those who are practicing magic, sorcery, and even “linguistic superstition,” since you do use the name, at least in the Shema, and also pray in secret in the name Yahweh. Don’t be ashamed

to repent and openly embrace the true name, since they are truth, and the only names of salvation. Find your real blessings in Yahweh and Yahshua.

Pastor Jerry Healan

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