

Do you salute the man or the office  
Volume 6 Chronicle 2017122401

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Salute is a verb, it requires action. Today our dialogue defines the word in military terms. Rank, a class of order, has its privileges. A non-commissioned service man must salute a commissioned service man. We have seen the action, standing erect or at attention a man raises his right hand, palm down, fingers closed, thumb tucked beneath, to his eyebrow with his elbow bent holding his hand at rest until noticed, and then smartly returns his arm beside his body. The salute is an act of greeting formally honoring a higher authority. Do you salute the man or the office?

Reading the (KJV) King James version of the Bible requires discipline! By the middle of the nineteenth century, the development of Biblical studies and discovery of many manuscripts more ancient than those upon which the King James Version was based, made it manifest to call for revision of the English translation. The task was undertaken, by authority of the Church of England, in 1870. Its variant embodying the preferences of American scholars associated with the work, was published in 1901, the (ASV) American Standard version.

A woman may be called: aunt, bride, daughter, mother, sister, or wife. Each reference, a revelation of her character and relationship with someone. All are respectful. God may be called: Lord in small letters and with an initial capital represents *Adhonai*, meaning Master, describing Father, Son and Holy Ghost. God in small letters and with an initial capital represents *Elohim*, meaning Creator or can do all that He wills, describing Father, Son and Holy Ghost. LORD or GOD in capital letters represents *Jehovah*, meaning will do all that He promised. There are thirteen combinations of *Jehovah* in the Old Testament. Each revelation identifies a facet of His intimately personal nature. The New Testament Greek word *Theos* translates God meaning divine magistrate, judge of all. Each reference, reveals character and relationship. All are respectful.

According to Esais (Isaiah) the prophet; Immanuel (Emmanuel) is the name given the child born of the virgin; the Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7: 14 ASV). Confirmed in the gospel of Matthew; Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, And they shall call his name Immanuel; [which is, being interpreted], God with us (Matthew 1: 23 ASV).

Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, which translates Jehovah is salvation. Christ is the Greek form of the Hebrew word messiah, which translates anointed. Jesus Christ, the double title, *the anointed salvation of Jehovah*, occurs only five times in the gospels, whereas it is very frequent in the Acts and epistles.

Joseph was instructed to call Immanuel by His title. Joseph arose from his sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took unto him his wife; and knew her not till she had brought forth a son: and he called his name JESUS (Matthew 1: 24-25 ASV portioned).

Scribes chose to use the Greek name Jesus over the Hebrew name of Joshua. Jesus (Joshua) was present for needs of His peculiar people when Jehovah first baptized in the Sinai. Joshua came to the Jordan, with all the children of Israel. Jehovah said Joshua, This day I begin to magnify you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know I will be with you. Command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant; when you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan. For needs of His peculiar people Jesus (Joshua) was present when Jehovah baptized again as Israel entered the Promised Land.

For four thousand years of history, God guided humanity and worked to fulfill his scheme to establish the church of God. Today there are hundreds, if not thousands, of religious denominations claiming to be the Lord's body.

Finding the true body of Christ in all this religious confusion is worse than looking for a needle in a haystack. Religious denominations wear different names and follow different opposing religious doctrines. How do I know the church promised in (Matthew 16: 18 ASV)? And the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

The church of God is critical in the divine redemption. Jesus Christ, *the anointed salvation of Jehovah*, died for it. Take heed yourself, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20: 28 ASV). That He might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word (Ephesians 5: 26 ASV). Christ is the head of the church, being Himself the saviour of the body (Ephesians 5: 23 ASV).

You must be in His church to be reconciled to God. Now in Christ Jesus you that once were far off are made nigh in the blood of Christ. He is our peace, having abolished in His flesh the law contained in ordinances; that He might reconcile both unto God through the cross (Ephesians 2: 13-16 ASV portioned). There's one body. One Spirit. One Lord. One faith. One baptism. One God and Father of all. Over all. Through all. In all (Ephesians 4: 4-6 ASV portioned).

Peter, James, and John saw His face shine as the sun. His garments became white as the light. There appeared Moses and Elijah talking with Him. Peter said, I will make three tabernacles. While he was yet speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and a voice out of the cloud, said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear Him (Matthew 17: 1-5 ASV portioned).

It was an impressive gesture. It has been made many times since. Men of every generation have wanted to enthrone Jesus with the great of earth. They want to give Him equal billing with the giants of history. God will not have it so.

In the Kingdom you cannot do that! Salvation is not a corporation. It is a kingdom. Someone proposes to have absolute dominion of your life. The miracle of life is in that decision. This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear Him. Everything depends upon that. Will you acknowledge His direction for your life? Salvation is not based on information. It is based on revelation. It is not the product of a study course. It is the miracle of entry. That is where the work began; Simon Peter said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jonah: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father who is in heaven. I say unto thee, upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (Matthew 16: 16-18 ASV portioned).

The salute is an act of greeting formally honoring higher authority. Do you salute the man Immanuel or the office of Jesus Christ? There is only one voice to be heard.