

ישוע המשיח

Yeshua the Messiah

The way that Yeshua came to us was a miracle. He did not come as grown man, but as a baby. The Almighty had chosen a young lady by the name of Miriam, to be His mother. Miraculously, before she ever had relations with her future husband Yoseph, Miriam discovered that she was pregnant. Of course, to others, this did not look good! Had Miriam be an immoral woman? It looked even worse to Yoseph, to whom she was betrothed! He had ever intention to send her away and not marry her, until God told him the truth through a dream. In the dream, Yoseph was visited by the Angel of Adonai, Who told him that Miriam was pregnant by a miracle of the Almighty, and that she would have a baby boy. What is more, Miriam did not have to



decide what name she should give to her baby. The Angel told Yoseph in the dream that the baby boy should be called Yeshua (ישוע), because He would save His people from their sins. There is a play of words on this name that you won't understand unless you know the Hebrew words spoken by the Angel in Yoseph's dream. Listen to how this sounds in Hebrew: תִּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ יֵשׁוּעַ, כִּי הוּא יוֹשִׁיעַ אֶת עַמּוֹ מִחַטְאוֹתֵיהֶם, *Tikra shemo Yeshua ki hu yoshia et amo meichato-teihem*. Do you hear how Yeshua and yoshia (which means “he will save”) sound the same? That is because the name Yeshua means “savior.” So Miriam and Yoseph were to call the baby boy “Yeshua” because He would *be the Savior* of His people.

Yeshua's full name, as He grew up as a little boy, was Yeshua ben Yoseph, “Yeshua, the son of Yoseph” because even though Yeshua was a miracle baby, Yoseph was still His earthly father. Hundreds of years before He was ever born, the prophet Isaiah had told our people about this. He wrote in his prophecy: “Therefore Adonai Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel” (Is 7:14). Now this is just a little confusing! Was His name suppose to be Yeshua, as the Angel of Adonai had informed Yoseph in the dream, or was He suppose to be given the name Immanuel, as Isaiah had prophesied? Actually, the two names mean the same thing, if you understand a very important thing. God had promised Israel that when He was with our people, they would always be saved from their troubles. Isaiah also wrote: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you” (Is. 43:2). This is what the name Immanuel means in Hebrew: “God is with us.” So Immanuel and Yeshua mean the same thing! Yeshua would be able to save His people from their sins, because He was God with us—He is Immanuel!

But Miriam and Yoseph didn't have a lot of money. Just at the time that Miriam was about to give birth to her baby boy, they were traveling to their hometown, Beit-lechem (Bethlehem), which means “house of bread.” Beit-lechem is very near to Jerusalem, and because it was the time of the Fall festivals, many people were there. As a result, there were no vacant rooms for Yoseph and Miriam, so they stayed in little shelter where the farm animals were. It was there, in the hay, that Miriam laid down and gave birth to Yeshua. It was the time of Sukkot, and many people were living in their Sukkahs. As Immanuel, Yeshua came to be “with us,” even in our Sukkah!