

Christopher D. Hudson

100
NAMES
AND ATTRIBUTES OF
JESUS

Daily Devotional



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ATTRIBUTES OF JESUS
DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Christopher D. Hudson

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Dedication

To Ryan and Mina:
May the love you share give you a better glimpse
of Jesus’s unfailing love for you



This book is given to

from

on this day

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The Names and Attributes of JESUS

“You are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

MATTHEW 1:21

Before Jesus’s time on earth, Joshua led the Hebrew people out of the wilderness and into the promised land, offering a tangible expression of God’s saving nature and setting the stage for what was to come. The book of Hebrews contrasts Joshua’s mission and earthly victory with the ministry of Jesus, who offers his followers a more permanent, spiritual rest (Hebrews 4:9). A remarkable detail about these two Bible heroes is that the Hebrew spelling of *Joshua* is similar to the Hebrew spelling of *Jesus*. Both names have the same meaning: “Yahweh saves.” While Joshua led the people into a physical homeland, it was just a movie-trailer-style preview of what would come. Jesus would extend an invitation to lead God’s people out of the spiritual wilderness into God’s permanent promised land.

If Jesus were only *Savior*, that would be enough for us—but he offers much more. Because Jesus shares the divinity of God the Father and the Holy Spirit, it follows naturally that Jesus’s character is multifaceted and that we can connect with him differently at different times. There are times we need to lean on him for forgiveness or cry out to him because we need an advocate. There are as many names, attributes, traits, and characteristics of Jesus as there are seasons of life. Each one

reveals Jesus's character, mission, or relationship with us—and each one reveals a different facet that we can call on as a need arises.

This book collects one hundred of the names and attributes of Jesus, so you can read them as a daily exercise over a few months or find the one you need to reflect on today. The names are arranged in part 1, and the attributes in part 2. (The attributes of Jesus permeate the Gospels, but since they cannot always be captured in an isolated phrase, the definitive Greek or Hebrew term is omitted from this section. However, Greek or Hebrew words that are relevant to each attribute, along with their Strong's concordance numbers, can be found in the index.)

There could be an ongoing debate about what is a *name* of Christ as opposed to a *title* or *attribute*. Adopting the straightforward approach presented here isn't meant to create a definitive list but to provide a way to think more deeply about Jesus. It is also worth noting that the line between the names of God and the names of Jesus is not always clear. Because the Trinity is beautifully intimate and complex, the traits between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit often overlap. Hopefully that causes you to reflect on the mystery of God even more. May this book be a small step on your journey in deepening your relationship with Jesus and enriching your faith.

Christopher D. Hudson
www.ReadEngageApply.com

LORD

κύριος

“God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:9–11

Humans desire power over their own lives. We can trace this longing to be our own authority back to Adam and Eve in the biblical story found in Genesis.

From childhood to adulthood, we often hope to shape our own futures, live by our self-defined rules, and chase our egocentric goals. And occasionally our plans work out. We achieve some successes that reinforce our perception that we have power over our lives. Yet, at some point, life confronts us with a humbling reality. Our control over circumstances is genuinely limited. Sometimes this realization gently dawns on us, and other times it comes crashing down during personal crises, health difficulties, or fractured relationships.

When we align our lives with Christ, we displace ourselves as the center of our universe and recognize him as our Lord—

the same word used in Philippians 2:11. The underlying Greek word for this position of authority is *Kyrios*, a translation of the Hebrew word *Adonai*. Both words convey a sense of true mastery, autonomy, and sovereignty. When we submit to Christ as Lord, we agree to come under his authority, yield to his plans, and entrust our futures to him.

In Philippians 2:10, Paul emphasized the universal authority of Jesus Christ. He declared that “every knee should bow” in reverence to Jesus’s name. Whether we align ourselves with him or not, Jesus is ultimately in control. Nothing happens without his knowledge and permission. Recognizing Jesus as Lord goes beyond mere belief and calls for wholehearted trust, loyalty, and obedience. By acknowledging him as our Lord, we align our lives with him and his teachings. He is the one we should follow, worship, and obey, even at a cost to ourselves.

In what areas of your life do you still struggle to release control and trust in Christ’s authority?

PRAYER

Lord, I am often drawn to make my own selfish decisions and aspire to be the lord of my own life. Help me to trust you, obey you, and align my life with you.

Read more: Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 19:16

CHRIST (MESSIAH)

Χριστός

*“This is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah,
the Son of God.”*

MARK 1:1

“**M**y next boss will be better.”

“The next school year will be easier.”

“The next Congress will get the job done.”

We often hold on to the promise of tomorrow, placing our faith in the changes that will occur in the days and years ahead. Tomorrow, we think, will genuinely be better.

The same hope stirred in the hearts of the Jewish people as they anticipated the arrival of the Messiah, the one they believed would throw off the Roman oppressors, right all wrongs done to them, and reinstate David’s throne. Expectations for a political, military, and spiritual leader were widespread. But Jesus appeared unexpectedly as a suffering servant instead. Mark 1:1 refers to Jesus as “Messiah,” which could also be translated “Christ” or “Anointed One.” Jesus brought a hope that was beyond restoring Israel’s autonomy and kingdom.

Rather than reinstalling a Jewish empire on earth, Jesus initiated the kingdom of heaven, whose boundaries would know no

earthly borders and whose years would know no end. Jesus, the awaited Anointed One, had finally appeared and ushered in something far greater than any of the Old Testament prophets could have envisioned.

During Old Testament times, three sorts of people were routinely anointed: prophets, priests, and kings. Christ, the Anointed One, unifies all three: As a prophet, he revealed God; as a priest, he offered access to the Father; and as a king, he became a leader we could follow.

Jesus unifies the roles of prophet, priest, and king. Which of these speaks most deeply to how you see him today?

PRAYER

Christ, the Anointed One, reveal your truth as my prophet, grant me forgiveness as my priest, and guide me as my king.

Read more: Matthew 16:16; John 1:41; 4:25–26; Acts 2:36



ALPHA AND OMEGA, FIRST AND LAST, BEGINNING AND END

τὸ Ἄλφα καὶ τὸ Ὡ
ὁ πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἔσχατος
ἡ ἀρχὴ καὶ τὸ τέλος

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,
the Beginning and the End.”*

REVELATION 22:13

The appeal of a diamond comes from its multiple facets. Every side is beautiful, and the sight of one can take your breath away when you stop to appreciate that the light reflects from multiple sides simultaneously. Diamonds are not two-dimensional, and their true beauty comes when viewing the complexity and interplay of the rays of light.

Exploring the names attributed to Jesus is quite similar.

Just as every view of a diamond reveals another aspect of its allure, each name and characteristic we give Christ reveals more of his limitless character. No single description can fully capture him. Rather, we discover a composite beauty by considering every name, title, and attribute. The wonder we find when viewing multiple names of Christ is especially true with the three names linked together in Revelation 22:13: Alpha and Omega, First and

Last, Beginning and End. While these may appear synonymous, each subtly offers a different vantage point with which to view his character.

As Alpha and Omega (or A to Z), Jesus represents the beginning and end of all knowledge. The English alphabet allows us to form any word by combining letters from A to Z. In Greek, every truth can only be expressed through words formed by letters found between alpha and omega. Jesus envelops everything we know.

Jesus rightfully holds the title of First. In the days of Jesus's earthly life, people worshiped many different gods. Jesus stood out then as God and continues to do so today. He was not only human but also the unquestioned one and only God. He is the First. And as Last, he is also the final authority. No other god has the authority he has. When we refer to him as the Beginning and End, we recognize that he is not just the creator of this world but that his return will bring about the culmination of earthly history.

Considering Jesus as our Alpha and Omega, First and Last, and Beginning and End brings deeper reverence for him as our maker, source, judge, and redeemer. He never changes, and he provides everything our hearts need.

How does knowing that Jesus has so many facets build your confidence that you can rely on him for everything you need?

PRAYER

*Thank you, precious Savior, for being my
Alpha and Omega, my First and Last,
my Beginning and End—my everything.*

Read more: Isaiah 44:6; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 12:2

THE ALMIGHTY ONE

ὁ παντοκράτωρ

“I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end,’ says the Lord God. ‘I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.”

REVELATION 1:8

We often associate the divine trait *almighty* with the trait of omnipotence. We may think of God like Superman, who is strong, invincible, and earth-shatteringly powerful. God is certainly those things but also much more. He is the all-powerful one who shapes galaxies from his breath and effortlessly disrupts the laws of nature to perform miracles.

We freely toss around the word *almighty* to prove theological points about Jesus’s divine nature, but what would it mean to think more personally about this? To understand that Jesus—our Savior—is the Almighty One who listens to our deepest prayers and has the power to act upon them? What does it mean that Jesus is the Almighty—the all-powerful—One?

This all-powerful Jesus isn’t just an abstract concept or academic definition. He is real, he is personal, and he is constantly watching over us. He shows his affection for us when he enters



into our lives and brings transformational peace. This is not a theoretical and distant display of power but a personal touch that demonstrates love for each of his children.

Our next few weeks and months are filled with uncertainty, and we'll face numerous situations that will make us feel powerless and lonely. Yet even then we are under the care of the all-powerful, unchanging Almighty One.

In what areas do you need Jesus's almighty power right now?

PRAYER

Almighty One, I depend on your power for today's challenges. Show me your power when I'm powerless to change an outcome.

Read more: 2 Corinthians 6:18; Revelation 4:8; 19:6



BELOVED SON

ὁ υἱὸς ὁ ἀγαπητός

“This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy.”

MATTHEW 3:17

“**I**f only a voice from heaven would give us a sign.”

This phrase may be a modern sentiment, but a fulfillment of this very desire happened during Jesus’s time on earth. At both Jesus’s baptism and his transfiguration, a voice from heaven—a divine proclamation—affirmed Jesus with the words “This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy” (Matthew 3:17; 17:5). With this declaration, there was no doubt of Jesus’s identity and divinity.

We find within the phrase “dearly loved Son” (or “beloved Son” in the King James Version) a profound description of the unique and permanent relationship between God the Father and Jesus. These words revealed to doubters that Jesus’s ministry was not a historical accident but part of God’s master plan. Together, the Father and Son worked to show love to the world and create a path for forgiveness.

Throughout the years, Bible readers and theologians have found these two biblical accounts to be fascinating windows into the Trinity. At Jesus’s baptism, for instance, we see Jesus in the water, hear God the Father’s voice from the heavens, and observe the

Holy Spirit descending as a dove—all three distinct persons of the singular Godhead appearing in a unique way.

Saint Augustine used God's loving nature to explain the Trinity. If God is love, who did he love before he created the world? After all, for love to exist, doesn't it require both a giver and a receiver? Augustine describes that before humanity was created, the Father loved the Son and Spirit, who also loved the Father in return. Love itself highlights the deep bond and unity within the Godhead. This profound model can inspire love within our own relationships. Just as Jesus loved the Father and received perfect love back from him, we can mirror that same trait as we love others.

How does the Trinity reflect the fact that “God is love” (1 John 4:8)?

PRAYER

Beloved Son of God, grow love for you within my own heart. Draw me closer to you every day.

Read more: Matthew 17:5; Mark 1:11; 9:7; Luke 9:35; 2 Peter 1:17

SON OF GOD

ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ θεοῦ

“You are the Son of God!”

MARK 3:11

If you attend a Broadway play, you’ll likely enjoy seeing a complex stage, with an eye-catching set that might change in every act and many characters wearing intriguing costumes. Once the curtain goes up, you won’t hear anybody ask, “Where should I be looking now?” The spotlight will provide direction. One person will be in the light and all eyes should be on him or her. Similarly, the title Son of God serves as a spotlight within the Bible’s story. The Bible contains over a thousand characters and offers various settings, but when the Son of God arrives in view, everything and everyone else becomes subordinate to him.

In Christian theology, all followers of Jesus are considered to be God’s children. But Jesus himself stands out as *the* Son of God with a distinct role. As the Son, he shares a divine essence with the Father and works with the Father on a unified mission to bring humanity back into a proper relationship with the Father. Jesus emphasized this oneness when he said, “The Father and I are one” (John 10:30). Yet this same title (Son of God) suggests an important distinction between the two of them. This statement presents a mystery: Jesus, one of the three persons of the Trinity, is fully God, distinct from yet one with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

The unity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, known as the Trinity, is impossible to comprehend. They are distinctly different persons yet one God. And although we may be disheartened over our inability to better understand the Trinity or to fully explain God, this reality can also be very inspiring. After all, who desires to serve a god that falls within the realm of easy definitions? Such a limited god would not be worthy of reverence. This would not be a god who could solve problems beyond our understanding.

Against the vast and incomprehensible backdrop of trying to understand God the Father, the title Son of God is both illuminating and challenging. As the Son, Jesus offers a unique window through which we may get to know the Father, yet this name of Christ also reminds us that we worship a God who is beyond our comprehension. That vastness can give us hope that he sees and can do what we can't anticipate.

How does Jesus inspire us with hope, even though his nature is difficult to fully comprehend?

PRAYER

Jesus, the Son of God, I am driven to understand you better but know that you will always be somewhat of a mystery to me. Grow my faith and trust when I'm not able to understand as much as I'd like.

Read more: John 1:34, 49; 3:16; 5:19; Romans 1:4

SON OF MAN

ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου

“The Son of Man is Lord, even over the Sabbath!”

MATTHEW 12:8

How would you respond if a friend from Europe declared, “I believe football is the most popular sport”? Would you agree? Or before answering, would you ask them to clarify what they meant by *football*? Without more context, knowing what your friend meant might be difficult. Some words have straightforward meanings, while others can drastically change based on context.

When first-century crowds heard Jesus referred to as the “Son of Man,” it likely gave them some pause. Like modern listeners hearing “football” used in an unfamiliar context, localized and individualized meanings abounded. Some grasping for clarity may have associated the title with biblical prophecies, while others may have seen it as nothing special.

For scripturally versed Jews, “Son of Man” echoed the prophet Daniel’s vision of a human-like messianic figure possessing divine authority. Daniel described the Son of Man as a messiah-like figure who would bring about God’s kingdom and hold ultimate authority (for example, see Daniel 7:13). From the descriptions in Revelation, it could seem Jesus saw himself as fulfilling Daniel’s prophecy.

But the same Jews who may have connected the dots between Daniel’s vision and Jesus’s words might have also known that Ezekiel used the term differently. For this prophet, “Son of Man” often referred to a human who would bring God’s message to humanity. As reflected in Ezekiel’s prophetic utterances, God even used the phrase to describe Ezekiel himself (for example, see Ezekiel 4:15–16).

With no shared understanding, confusion as to Jesus’s intended meaning seems probable. Was Jesus claiming divine authority like that described in Daniel’s vision? Or, like Ezekiel, was he positioning himself as God’s special human representative? Or did he mean both?

Jesus, like his teachings, defied simple explanations. His use of “Son of Man” is no different. Jesus’s use of this phrase captures both his divine nature—worthy of worship—and his unique position as God’s special envoy to humanity. This dual meaning comes together most clearly through his actions and teachings, painting a complete picture of a divine Savior who intimately shared our human experience.

How does the fact that “Son of Man” can have different meanings add richness to who Jesus is?

PRAYER

*Son of Man, enlighten my heart to worship
your divine nature while embracing you as
my bridge between heaven and earth.*

Read more: Ezekiel 2:1; Daniel 7:13–14; Mark 2:10; Luke 19:10; John 3:13