

CPV

A CLEAR, PREFERRED VERSION

The intent of the CPV is to provide a clear version of the Scriptures in modern English, which is true to the original manuscripts, and the revealed, sacred Name of **YHWH** (the Almighty). It also prefers to use the original Hebrew form of our Saviour's Name - **Y'SHUA** the Messiah.

The sacred Name of YHWH is the Almighty's "Memorial Name for all generations." (Exodus 3:15)

"And God also said to Moses, 'This shall you say to the sons of Israel, 'YHWH, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, and this is **My memorial-Name to all generations**'."

(*alternate translation*: "By this Name I am to be remembered from generation to generation.")

While the Name was known in the Garden of Eden, and was spoken reverently by the Hebrew people well into the times of the Kings of Israel, fear of misusing the Name caused the Jews during the time of the latter kings, and the post-captivity period, to cease **speaking** the Name. The written form of the Name - YHWH - though, has been retained till this day in the Hebrew Scriptures.

A true translation of the Scriptures cannot follow the superstitious and ignorant traditions of men - traditions that have led to a virtual elimination of the Sacred Name in the English language.

The Jews substituted the Sacred Name with the words *Adonai* (Lord) and *HaShem* (The Name); the Greeks substituted with *Kurios*, and the English substituted with LORD. But now, translators must face up to the fact that YHWH does not spell LORD. YHWH is a Name, and a Name does not change, no matter what language it is in. It may be, and should be, **transliterated** into a local alphabet, but it should not be translated, substituted, or eliminated.

In the 19th century, the word Jehovah was used quite widely, and J N Darby's version faithfully used Jehovah wherever YHWH occurred in the OT. But modern versions do not use Jehovah at all. The King James Version has used Jehovah very sparingly - only seven times out of the 6855 times the Name is used in the Old Testament.

Jehovah's Witnesses, of course, continue to use Jehovah in their own version, in spite of knowing full well, and pointing it out in some of their literature, that YHWH does not spell Jehovah, and that YHWH is the correct form of God's Name.

Several recent versions have restored the Sacred Name consistently, using Yahweh, or Yahwah, or YHWH, and one uses the Hebrew letters יהוה where the Name occurs.

The CPV uses YHWH, as this is the transliteration of the four letters used in the Hebrew Bible.

Regarding the pronunciation of the Name, research has pointed to **Yahweh** or **Yahwah** as being the most likely. (I myself prefer Yahweh). The Name is evidently derived from, or is related to, the Hebrew words, *haya* and *hawa*, "to be, to become, to exist." These Hebrew words along with the expression, "I Am that I Am," (Ex. 3:14), indicate that the meaning of the Sacred Name is – **"the eternally- existing**

One” - (the Great I AM).

The restoration of the Sacred Name is most significant in these last days, for the Almighty says:

"My people shall know My Name." (Isaiah 52:6)

The Hebrew form of our Saviour's Name - **Y'SHUA** - is to be preferred to the hellenized and anglicized forms of His Name, for three reasons;

1. Y'shua, the Hebrew Name, is the actual Name that was given to the Saviour by Miryam and Yoseph, in obedience to the instructions of God.
2. A transliteration of the Hebrew Name directly into English provides a more accurate form than the transliterations that have come via Greek, Latin and ancient English.
3. Only the Hebrew Name reveals the accurate meaning of the Saviour's Name . . .

"YHWH, the Eternally-existing One is Salvation."

Tragically, the English letter "J" has been used to camouflage the divine element in many Bible names, including the Name of Y'shua. Thus most Christians are ignorant of the fact that the Father's Name is in the Son's Name.

“Be watchful *and pay attention to Him* and obey His voice; do not rebel against Him, for He will not pardon your transgression, for **My Name is in Him.**" (Exodus 23:21)

For the same reason, most Christians do not realize that the word HalleluYah contains the short form of God's Name - Yah.

HalleluYah means "Praise Yah"

These truths should be taught in Sunday School, but sadly, the Christian church has traditionally neglected them. Restoration of the Sacred Names is the main reason for the Clear Preferred Version.

In the CPV we use capitalization of titles, the synonyms of the proper nouns, and of personal pronouns which refer to the Almighty, including the word Name itself, when it stands for God's Name. His "Name" is not a common noun!

The CPV uses, sparingly, a few other Hebrew titles of God - compound titles, or Names referring to Him - words that should be familiar to a believer who loves the Word. Such Hebrew words and their meanings should become a part of every Christian's knowledge and vocabulary. Hebrew words used in these Psalms:

El Shaddai	Almighty God
Elohim, or Eloah	God
El Elyon	God Most High
Torah	Teaching, instruction
YHWH-Ro'ee	YHWH my Shepherd

“The Messiah” is the English transliteration of HaMashiach, which means “The Anointed One.”

The CPV seeks to be as literal as possible. Words in italics do not appear in the Hebrew manuscripts. They are supplied words to complete a sentence, or words that amplify a phrase, to give a clearer meaning. All English versions have added words here and there to complete sentences, and most print them in italics. (The NIV doesn't.)

It is a false argument to say that such supplied words are "adding to the Word of

God." No! They are not added to the original texts, but they are used only to give completeness to a sentence, or to make a phrase understandable in our own language. It is very important, however, that such supplied words should be printed in italics.

There are many Hebrew words (and even English words) that cannot be adequately translated by a single word. In places where we use synonyms to give a fuller meaning, they are joined by *and* in italics. For example, in Psalm 8:4:

"What is man that You are mindful of Him,
and the Son of Man that You visit *and* inspect Him?"

Most translations read, "You visit him." The literal word, however, is "inspect." In a case like this it was considered right to use the both words - "visit *and* inspect" - which, I think you will agree, gives a fuller meaning to the sentence.

We have sought to use the literal tense, as much as each context allows. For example, in Psalm 40:16, instead of the usual, "The LORD *be* magnified," we have used the present tense of the Hebrew sentence ...

"YHWH is magnified"

In Hebrew the present tense the very "to be" is not written, but it is implied.

There are occasional sentences in Hebrew which baffle the experts; and so they give alternative renderings.

One such sentence is in Psalm 2:9 - a reference to the Messiah, where the literal translation reads: "You will break them with a rod of iron; You will dash them to pieces like pottery."

The Hebrew word *raa* seems to be correctly translated as "break", but the idea that the Almighty will literally break His enemies with an iron rod seems inappropriate.

(True, we might say this is only a "figure of speech." But it is not a common figure of speech in many languages and cultures.)

The "rod of iron" is undoubtedly referring to a powerful sceptre - the symbol of authority held by a king. A king rules with a sceptre, but he does not use it as a physical weapon. Thus scholars have suggested the alternative reading - He shall **rule** them with a sceptre of iron.

Psalm 2 is speaking of the opposition of the rulers of the earth to the LORD; and also of the nations being an inheritance of the Messiah. So we could be correct in interpreting the passage this way:- for the nations to become the inheritance of Messiah, and for them to be ruled by His strength and righteousness, they must be first broken; all resistance to Messiah's authority must be dashed to pieces, so that the nations can come into Millennial blessing.

Far from being a cruel tyrant, the Messiah - who is indeed the Almighty in human form - is the gracious and loving God who desires that all should come to repentance, and come into the blessedness of a right relationship with Him - the Eternal, and Holy One.

Thus the Psalms begins with the contrast between the righteous and the wicked; the blessedness of the One who delights in the Teaching of YHWH; and the inevitable destruction of the wicked who refuse the grace and the warnings of the One who is full of mercy and lovingkindness.

The accuracy of the CPV, or any version, may be checked, not simply by comparing with other English translations, but by referring to the original Hebrew, or to a literal English translation of the O.T., (such as Young's Literal Translation).

The footnotes in study Bibles are also helpful.

We have indicated Messianic passages in these Psalms by caret marks ... ^ at the beginning and ending of the passage.^ N.T. references to the fulfillment in the Messiah are also given.

My prayer is that the Book of Psalms will cause us each one to delight in YHWH our Heavenly Father, and in Y'shua Ha Mashiach, His Anointed One, and in His holy Torah - His loving and wise instructions.

May YHWH bless His Word to our hearts.

Don Stanton

There is no copyright on CPV. But if you use it in print, please be sure to use the italics and the capitalization that is used in the version.

"All who seek You rejoice and are glad in You.
Those who love Your salvation say continually,

YHWH is magnified!

(Psalm 40:16)