

The Significance of God Naming Solomon 'Jedidiah'

Did you know that Solomon had another name in the Bible? And did you know that his other name was given by divine inspiration?

And did you know that there is a special message for all of us found in Solomon's other name?

We read in 2 Samuel 12:24-25 that, after David and Bathsheba's first son, they were intimate again and she gave birth to another son whom they named Solomon. The text then states, "The LORD loved him; and because the LORD loved him, He sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah."

So, God Himself named the baby Jedidiah, pronounced in Hebrew *ye-deed-yah*, meaning, "loved by Yahweh."

Why is this so significant?

Let's go back to chapter 11 of 2 Samuel.

We read there that, at the time of the year that kings would go out to war, David stayed back in his palace. One night, as he walked on the palace roof, he saw a very beautiful woman bathing. That woman was Bathsheba. And that woman was married to a man named Uriah, a loyal soldier who was away from home because he was serving on the battlefield—the very place where David should have been.

Yet not only did David take notice of this woman. He had her brought to the palace, knowing full well that she was married, and he slept with her.

But that's only the beginning of the story.

When David learned that Bathsheba was pregnant, he called

Uriah back from the battlefield under the guise of asking how things were going and with the obvious hope that he would sleep with his wife, thus thinking the baby was his own. But Uriah was such a devoted soldier that, rather than go home to his wife, he spent the night sleeping at the entrance of the palace.

So David had him stay one more night and this time got him drunk. Surely Uriah will head home now! But he didn't.

What did David do? Did he come clean and confess? Or did he send Uriah back to the battlefield, leaving Bathsheba to fend for herself?

No. David did something more wicked still. He sent instructions to Joab, the army commander, to put Uriah on the front lines and then to withdraw so Uriah would be killed. David even sent the instructions through Uriah himself, knowing he would not try to learn the contents of the communique.

Talk about wickedness. Talk about treachery. It doesn't get much worse than this.

When news came that Uriah was killed, David expressed no remorse, instead taking Bathsheba as his wife after her time of mourning. "But," the Scripture states, "the thing David had done displeased the LORD" (2 Sam. 11:27).

The next chapter—2 Samuel 12—recounts how Nathan the prophet came with a stinging word of rebuke for David, guaranteeing much suffering and pain in the future: "Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised Me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own."

"This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. You did it in

secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel'" (2 Sam. 12:10–12).

David said in response, "I have sinned against the LORD" (2 Sam. 12:13; for his heartfelt psalm of repentance and confession, see Psalm 51.)

In reply, Nathan said, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the LORD, the son born to you will die" (2 Sam. 12:13–14, NIV).

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In the verses that follow, we read how the Lord struck down the child conceived in adultery, and, despite David's pleas, the baby died.

It is after this that we read that David and Bathsheba then had another child, Solomon, and it was this child that the Lord loved and named Jedidiah. How remarkable!

It is true that David's sin brought lasting damage on his household and tarnished his legacy. And it is true that both Uriah and the illegitimate child of David and Bathsheba died as a result of his sin.

It is also true that Solomon fell headlong into sexual sin himself, more than any king in Israel's history.

But that was not his destiny from birth. It was his own sinful choice.

That's because, despite the terrible sin of David, Solomon's father, God saw David's deep repentance to the point that He set His love on Solomon from birth. He even sent the prophet Nathan—the same man who rebuked David—to tell the king of His love for the child. To say it again: How remarkable!

The lesson for us is that even after our worst, most regrettable sins, if we truly humble ourselves and repent, if we get low and accept the consequence of our misdeeds, we can encounter the love of God afresh.

In this case, it would seem that the Lord wanted to let David and Bathsheba know that He had forgiven him/them, hence the naming of their child, removing the stain of guilt. He even wanted them to know that He would bless them from here on—this is almost inconceivable—to the point that Solomon was the one chosen to be David's successor.

Not only so, but if Solomon had remained faithful, the line of David would have become known as the line of Solomon as well. What love!

To be sure, it's so much better if we don't commit grievous sins against the Lord and against others. Our sins can really harm innocent people, not to mention ourselves.

And yet, God is a redeemer, filled with a love beyond anything we can imagine—think of the cross—to the point that a child born to a couple that itself was the fruit of adultery can be named Jedidiah, loved by Yahweh. How remarkable!

But there's still more to the story.

Perhaps you yourself are a Jedidiah. Perhaps you yourself were the product of sin. (I immediately think of two great Christian leaders, one male and one female, both of whom were conceived in rape.)

Perhaps the origins of your life or ministry or family can be traced back to a sinful union or unfortunate event. And perhaps, to this day, you feel a stigma or shame over your life or work.

Perhaps, as you submit your life afresh to Him, the Lord, in His love, will rename you Jedidiah as well. {eoa}

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Apostasy in the Church? What to Look Out For

Is America experiencing apostasy in the church? And if so, how can we be sure of the signs of what we're seeing?

One of the key tenets of the Christian life is following Jesus whole-heartedly as the way and the truth and the life. However, many today who consider themselves Christians believe this stance is a harmful one and that because God loves, there are no repercussions of sin. However, this is contradictory to the Word of God which states: "Those who I love, I rebuke and discipline," (Rev. 3:19).

One example of this type of apostasy in the church that has gone viral is the example of Cathedral of Hope. In this "church," the rainbow colors were paraded as drag queen nuns read their own creed.

On their website, a statement about sexuality and faith can be found, which reads: "Cathedral of Hope is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We practice extravagant welcome, and many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender folk have found their spiritual home here."

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The problem with this statement isn't that people are welcome

into the church. It is the job of the church to provide for the broken, the sick and the lost. The problem is that the sin is not only welcomed, but celebrated. The point of coming to Christ isn't to be affirmed in our sins, but to allow Him to transform us.

That's why Ephesians 4:20-24 tells us that we need to take off the former way of life and be renewed in our mind. To live a godly life, we must stay focused on the One who can completely transform us: Jesus.

Instead of focusing on the transformative life in Christ, Cathedral of Hope is sharing that sin is the best way of life, and that there is nothing greater than what the world has to offer. However, Gender Dysphoria, fear, confusion and anxiety are issues many people struggle with. As Christians, it's not our job to affirm people in brokenness and leave them without hope when we have discovered the ultimate hope in our Savior, Jesus Christ.

So, how can we tell if a church is really a place where the Lord's Word is proclaimed?

The first thing to do is to look at what the church believes. Are there scriptural references that align with sound doctrine? Are the messages more appealing to the flesh, or do they bring conviction and clarity through the Holy Spirit?

The second thing to ask is if the gospel is the main focus of the church. Does the church uphold the name of Jesus Christ as Lord, or do they get offended when He is proclaimed as the only path to heaven? Doctrinally sound churches will behold Christ with the utmost respect and esteem Him as the One most holy. Others will not.

Revelation 3:14-16 reads: "The Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of creation of God, says these things: I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and

neither cold nor hot, I will spit you out of My mouth.”

Do not find yourself caught up in a church full of lukewarm believers. The last thing anyone wants to do is find themselves being spit out by God. If you’re unsure of a church you’ve been attending or want to attend, do the research you can, ask questions and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit through God’s Word and prayer. Just because the world around us is falling for the hypocrisy doesn’t mean that we have to. Instead, we can stand firmly and boldly for the gospel in all circumstances.

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Top of the Week: ‘This Is Blasphemy’: Dallas Church Proudly Mocks God During Service

Following are snippets of the top stories posted over the past week on . We encourage you to visit the links to read the stories in full.

‘This Is Blasphemy’: Dallas Church Proudly Mocks God During Service

A Dallas, Texas, church hosted a group of drag queens last Sunday in order to “bless” them and to respond to a state law

that would make sexually oriented performances in front of children a criminal offense. The church then went a step further, pledging allegiance to the LGBT agenda while praying aloud, "We pledge to be allies to the drag community."

The Cathedral of Hope held a "Drag Sunday" service to "bless" the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, according to The Dallas Express.

As Charisma News has reported, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are a controversial drag group that dresses as nuns, mocks religious imagery and revels in blasphemous portrayals of the crucifixion.

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Christian Leaders Greg Locke and Daniel Adams Parting Ways

In the world of Christianity, it's common to encounter disagreements and divisions. While the Bible emphasizes the importance of unity among believers, it's also true that people sometimes interpret things differently and have varying approaches to their faith.

How Christians handle these moments of division within the church says a lot about their commitment to the core values of love and unity.

In a world where conflicts often make headlines, it's essential for Christians to remember a simple but powerful message from Scripture: If it's possible, do your best to live in peace with everyone (see Rom. 12:18).

Great Deception Prophecies Becoming a Reality With NASA's Latest Announcement

Prophetic words have been going out pointing directly at the

Great Deception that is coming involving both artificial intelligence and the ongoing UFO/UAP (Unidentified Aerial Phenomena) debate.

Recently, NASA's announcement of utilizing AI in a much greater capacity seems to line up with exactly what Christian experts in the field have said regarding end-times AI and alien reports.

NASA has declared that AI and machine learning will play a crucial role in the quest to discover and validate the existence of extraterrestrial life and UFOs. In its recent 36-page UFO report, NASA acknowledged that it lacks sufficient high-quality data to draw a definitive scientific conclusion about the origins of UFOs.

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How to Identify and Separate False Prophets

As the days grow spiritually darker across the world, as they must for the return of Jesus Christ to take place, false prophets and teachers are laying claim to deceived souls at a record pace.

With the power of social media at their fingertips, millions are being lulled into a false sense of spiritual community with a figure that is leading them down death's path.

Recently, Pastor Greg Locke of Global Vision Bible Church in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, shared a passionately personal story of having to unhitch himself, and the church, from a friend who has been deceived by one of these false prophets.

Is This the Most Dangerous Man in America?

Our battle is not against flesh and blood, according to the Bible, it is a spiritual battle taking place all around us. This does not mean Christians are to remain silent as those who seek to corrupt and pervert the world against its

Creator's principles, design and morality. We are, in fact, called to expose the unfruitful works of darkness according to Ephesians 5:11.

There is a man, a particular man, who is wreaking havoc in the state of California, and if you think his goal is to keep the sick and twisted laws he helps pass grounded in California, you would be sorely mistaken.

California State Sen. Scott Wiener is largely responsible for the anti-child and anti-parental laws being swept through the state's government that are aimed at removing children from homes and putting them in the care of the government. {eoa}

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Tim Sheets Prophetic Dream: 'Bears' Are Going to Gasp Their Final Breath

Apostle Tim Sheets says that while God is shaking a number of things and people in this tumultuous world of ours, there is one comforting thought believers should take to heart: We ourselves do not need to be shaken because we are part of a kingdom that's not going to be shaken.

Sheets says he recently had a prophetic dream about the month of October "that we're now going to see God destroy the works of iniquity of the enemy."

"I was in a wilderness, a huge forest," Sheets says. "I heard a bear that was dying. I've hunted bear and I know what that

sounds like. But I heard a bear's death rattle. When a bear is dying, they will roar. It's a fierce kind of roar; it's their last gasp. I heard this, and I followed the sound and I go over and find a dead bear. I dreamed that for three weeks in a row three different times.

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"The prophetic word I'm getting is that in the month of October, there are things of hell—ideologies of Baal—works of iniquity that are going to breathe their last. In other words, they're on their last breath. They are gasping their last and I believe if we pray, things that are bears that are intimidating and coming in fierce against the people of God against our nation ... there are some ideologies, some political things that are on their last breath."

Sheets encouraged believers to get down on their knees, pray diligently and to get bold in their faith to help bring down strongholds that have severely weakened our nation.

"I'm going to declare that and ask you to pray along with me," he says. "I'm going to study that out more and do a sermon on that, but I feel like October is a time when God is going to bring things that are very fierce—deep, iniquitous roots, ideologies, doctrines—that are only their last legs. They are breathing their last if we will pray. I ask you to agree with me and pray—pray in the Holy Ghost if you don't know what to pray—but I'm going to pray these things:

"Lord, I believe we're moving into a time of great strategy for the body of Christ and we've got to hear from You. It is a time when we must rise up and boldly declare our faith; boldly speak what you say, even like this dream with the bears that are dead; to boldly stand and say there are ideologies that are breathing their last. In October, we declare an end to

you. They're going to die. They're going to go away in Jesus' name.

"We speak to those powers of darkness that have exhibited themselves in our nation and we say in October that they end in Jesus' name. Send power to bring them completely down in Jesus' name. ... We declare that October will be a month that sees the passing away of evil programs and strategies. God, we pray that there comes a supernatural release of power that comes against it to take it out, to remove the bears from the scene." {eoa}

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Shawn A. Akers is the online editor at Charisma Media.

Do We Have A Chosen Time To Die?

Do we all have an appointed or chosen time to die? Does God control the timing of death, and when it happens is it always His will?

We have all heard it said, "You never know when it's your time" or "God took him home." When a baby dies they say that God must have wanted him. When tragedy strikes they ask, "Why did God allow this?"

They suggest He could have stopped it but He didn't. In essence they are saying, "It's your fault, God." Is all of this rhetoric merely a man-made tradition, or is this taught in the Bible?

You may be surprised to find that this line of thinking is completely unbiblical. The Bible actually teaches that the length of our life largely depends on what we do and say. God's plan for His children is for each of us to live a long life, and to finish our God-given assignment on the earth. Also true is a person can desire to go home to the Lord at a younger age but it would not be God's best for him or her. His desire is for all of us to live longer in order to accomplish more for the kingdom.

Psalm 91:16 says, "With long life will I satisfy him." If a Christian is satisfied to go home to heaven because of pain or despair, and they do not believe God will heal them, that is a choice. The promise of long life also does not belong to those who don't know God, or the ones who live in willful disobedience.

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We can also shorten our lives with poor eating habits, taking personal risks or making reckless decisions. Of course most people will experience some type of pain or loss or suffering in this life because we live in a broken world, and we are not immune to these trials and suffering. Satan is our enemy and he seeks to destroy us, steal from us and ultimately kill us. If he can't find a way to destroy us, he will work to make us ineffective in our God-given assignment. We are in a war for our lives, our health, our families, our protection and our provision.

The good news is that the Bible promises us a long life if we do what His Word commands. Just a few examples from the Bible are as follows:

- Proverbs 3:2, Keep my commandments for length of days, and long life, and peace shall they add to thee.

- Proverbs 3:13,16, Find wisdom...length of days is in her right hand.
- Proverbs 4:10, Hear and receive my sayings, and the years of thy life shall be many.
- Proverbs 10:27, The fear of the Lord prolongeth days, but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.
- Proverbs 14:27, The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.
- Proverbs 19:23, The fear of the Lord tendeth to life, and he that hath it shall abide satisfied, he shall not be visited with evil.
- Proverbs 28:16, He that hates covetousness shall prolong his days.
- Ephesians 6:2, Honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

How we choose to live our lives directly affects our life span. We can increase it by obeying the Lord, knowing His Word and maintaining a reverential fear of Him. We can also shorten it by our actions, thoughts and behaviors.

There are many other aspects of our lives that impact our time here on earth. I encourage you to search the scriptures and discover all of ways you can live a long, healthy life based on the promises of God. Declare these promises over your life, and with His help you will live until you are satisfied, and finish your race for His glory.

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Bill Wiese is the author of New York Times best selling book, 23 Minutes In Hell, the story of his life-changing visit to hell in 1998. Bill has since authored six additional book titles, and continues to share his experience around the world. He and his wife Annette founded Soul Choice

Ministries in late 2006 and have dedicated their lives to reaching the unsaved. For more information about Bill Wiese and Soul Choice Ministries please visit us at: You can find more of Bill's teachings at:

Parents Beware: Are Your Kids Exploring the Occult Through Friends?

In today's fast-paced digital age, Christian parents are increasingly vigilant about what their children are learning in school, what they watch on TV and what they access online.

While these concerns are valid, Christian journalist and author Billy Hallowell is urging parents to also pay attention to another source of potential spiritual influence—their children's friends. In an interview with former psychic Jenn Nizza, Hallowell discussed the presence of occult activities in the lives of today's youth and the need for parents to be keenly alert to the possibility.

Nizza pointed out the prevalence of Ouija boards and Tarot cards can be found in multiple entertainment venues and they are captivating the minds of young people.

Hallowell believes that, while the debate on education is often about what the teachers are teaching, it is less focused on "what the other kids are bringing in, which could happen anywhere.

"It could happen at summer camp, at karate, at a sport," Hallowell says. "It makes me worry that maybe parents aren't

thinking about that aspect of it as much as they are other things. I think we have to talk about all of it.”

Hallowell himself has a 10-year-old daughter who witnessed classmates playing with Tarot cards at school. This raised a critical question: are Christian parents doing enough to monitor their kids’ occult activities introduced to them by friends?

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Hallowell focused on the need for Christian parents to recognize that they are in a spiritual battle, even in the seemingly safe confines of the church. Ephesians 6, which discusses the armor of God, serves as a reminder that the battle extends to their children, and churches should prioritize teaching on this chapter of the Bible.

Hallowell stressed the significance of reaching children at a young age, as early beliefs can shape their future worldview. Parents must be diligent in guiding their children away from harmful influences and toward a strong Christian foundation.

“I find it really disturbing that a lot of us live in the church as though we’re not in that battle, as though our kids aren’t in that battle when ... all the things we are talking about culturally [are] surrounding kids,” he says. “If you can get a young kid to believe or think something, you get them young and you win them over. We have to be extra diligent as parents.”

Social media and the prevalence of divination-related content on platforms like TikTok are also a major concern for all children, especially Christian children. He discontinued his children’s use of YouTube Kids due to this concern.

“There’s no bigger danger than that,” Hallowell says.

Hallowell advocated for Christian entertainment that tells realistic and challenging stories, moving beyond the traditional “fluffy” narratives. He cited movies like “Nefarious” and “Sound of Freedom” as examples of films that may not be strictly Christian but still resonate with the Christian audience.

“We’re going to have to see more of that, I think, if we want to make an impact on culture,” Hallowell said {eoa}

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Morning Rundown: ‘Demon-Possessed’ Prostitute Rejects Candace Owens’ Prayer After Debate

Here’s a quick summary of the top stories on :

‘Demon-Possessed’ Prostitute Rejects Candace Owens’ Prayer After Debate

Has Christianity withdrawn so far from recognizing and confronting the spiritual aspects of the world that it now is incapable of recognizing someone who is under the oppression of a demon?

In many cases yes, as pendulum swings can go from an over-spiritualized mindset that accuses anyone and everything of

having a demon, to completely absolving someone of having a spiritual issue and instead focusing on the physical side of things.

Recently, conservative commentator Candace Owens joined the now infamous "Whatever" podcast. The show is a debate-style format that usually has one or two conservative-minded individuals discuss topics with women who participate in activities such as legal prostitution and OnlyFans created content.

Jonathan Cahn: Is the Church Sleeping Through God's Prophetic Timeline?

Jonathan Cahn agrees with many fellow believers that our God is a God of mercy. But the bestselling author of "The Josiah Manifesto" also believes that He is a God of justice, and that His judgment is going to fall on America for its sins, including those of the church.

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Many Christians in this day want to believe that the Lord is, as podcast interviewer and deliverance minister Isaiah Saldivar says, a "real cuddly, cute, real comfortable Jesus." There is no fear or reverence of God in the American church, and many in our country and even the church have mocked God and "spit in his face," thinking that God will be silent and not respond.

Galatians 6:7-8 reads, "Be not deceived. God is not mocked. For whatever a man sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows from the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life."

Larry Tomczak: Understanding Deception for Non-Dummies

Recently, I did a commentary “Understanding the End Times for Non-Dummies,” playing off the “For Dummies” series that has sold over 250 million copies helping people learn important subjects in an easy to understand way. This second installment deals with the dangers of deception which Jesus warned was the primary sign prior to His Return.

No genuine Christian has the luxury of taking this subject lightly. How a person spends this life and where they’ll spend eternity depends on being discerning at the end of the age. We’ve got to learn to discern because “discernment is not knowing the difference between right and wrong but right and almost right.” – Charles Spurgeon

Satan is a master at deceiving people, especially in obfuscating the beautiful and simple message of the gospel. “But I fear that somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve through his trickery, so your minds might be led astray from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Cor. 11:3). {eoa}

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AG Pastors Call for Resignations Amid Sex Abuse Scandal