

## ❖ Origin of “Jesus” and “Christ”

- “Joshua” --> “Jesus”
  - The original Old Testament was written in Hebrew and Aramaic. The Hebrew word “יְהוֹשֻׁעַ” (*yəhōšūa‘*, 218x) is a proper name, meaning “Jehovah saves”. The English OT transliterates it to “Joshua”. [There is also the abbreviated form “יֵשׁוּעַ” (*yēšūa‘*, 29x) which is transliterated as “Jeshua”. See 1 King 24:11, 2 King 31:15, Esra, Nehemiah, etc.]
  - The Greek translation of OT (the Septuagint around 200 B.C.) transliterates “יְהוֹשֻׁעַ” (and “יֵשׁוּעַ”) as “Ἰησοῦς” (*Iēsous*, 246x).
  - The original New Testament was written in Greek. The Greek proper name “Ἰησοῦς” appeared 917 times in the NT. Except for four places (Luke 3:29, Acts 7:45, Colossians 4:11, Hebrews 4:8), the English NT transliterates this word as “Jesus”.
  - Questions:
    - How is the word “Ἰησοῦς” in Luke 3:29, Acts 7:45, Colossians 4:11, and Hebrews 4:8 translated in the English NT?
    - Reading Matthew 1:21, the angel was possibly speaking to Joseph in: 1) Greek; 2) Hebrew/Aramaic; 3) English; or 4) An angelic language?
    - Why does the same word appear 247 (218+29) times in the Hebrew OT, but 246 times in the Greek translation of the OT? What are some of the possibilities?
- “The Anointed One” --> “Christ”
  - The original Old Testament was written in Hebrew and Aramaic. The Hebrew word “מָשִׁיחַ” (*māšīaḥ*, 38x) means “the anointed one”. The English OT translates it as “the anointed one” (Ex.: 1 Samuel 2:35, Psalm 2:2).
  - The Greek translation of OT (the Septuagint around 200 B.C.) translates “מָשִׁיחַ” as “χριστός” (*christos*, 41x). “χριστός” means “the anointed one” in Greek.
  - The original New Testament was written in Greek. The Greek word “χριστός” appeared 529 times in the NT. Except for Acts 4:2, the English NT transliterates this word as “Christ”.
  - The Greek word “Μεσσίας” (*Messias*) appeared only twice in the Greek NT (John 1:41, 4:25). This word is the Greek transliteration of the Hebrew word “מָשִׁיחַ”. The English NT transliterates this word as “Messiah”.
  - Questions:
    - How is “χριστός” translated in Acts 4:26?
    - From John 1:41, Andrew was probably speaking to his brother Simon in: 1) Greek, 2) Hebrew/Aramaic, 3) English, 4) Other?
    - From John 4:25, the Samaritan woman was probably speaking to Jesus in: 1) Greek, 2) Hebrew/Aramaic, 3) English, 4) Other?