

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

December 21, 2014 Matthew 2:1-12 by Bob Branch
The Titles of Jesus—Christmas 2014

MAIN IDEA: Matthew's Gospel uses 3 titles that describe who Jesus is. Each title is a window into who Jesus is, and an invitation to know Him through it!

JESUS' PEDIGREE:

- Of the Lineage of David (ch. 1)
- His miraculous conception by the Spirit
- The Angels attestation
- The Astral Portends announce Him (2)
- Pagan Astrologers recognize Him as legitimate
- His own people do not
- Angelic interference, protection and guidance
- Prophecies fulfilled (2:5, 15, 17, 23)
- Worthy of Worship (2, 8, 11)

1. Jesus is a KING... the One WHO REIGNS.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.” **Isaiah 9:6-7**

He is THE king. Will you make him YOUR king?

PRAYER: I bow before you as King, as my King. I swear my allegiance to you, give my loyalty to you. Everything I have and am is yours. I die to me, to live to you. As my king, I come to worship you.

2. Jesus is a RULER... the One WHO LEADS.

- I will take your words seriously.
“So why do you keep calling me ‘Lord, Lord!’ when you don't do what I say?” **Luke 6:46** NLT
- Stop compartmentalizing.
- Yield to the still, small voice

He is the Ruler. Is he My Ruler?

PRAYER: As my Ruler, One who leads me, I submit and give you the reigns of my life: my thoughts, eyes, feelings, dreams, motives and intentions. I pledge to follow your leadership. I call out: Your Kingdom come! Your Will be done (through and in me), on earth as it is in heaven.

3. Jesus is a SHEPHERD... the One WHO CARES.

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.” **John 10:11** NLT

Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.” **Matthew 11:28–30** NLT

He is the Good Shepherd. Is he your Shepherd?

PRAYER: As my Shepherd, I let down my guard and trust you. I entrust myself to your love and care. You know what is best for me. You are the protector and nurturer of my soul. Only you truly satisfy my soul. You feed me, guard me, lead me, cleanse me. You are enough for me. Amen.