

The only name that saves

The **New Testament** writers wrote the **New Testament** in **Greek** and quoted the **Old Testament** also in **Greek**. Like English today, Greek was spoken all over the ancient world by people of many different cultures. Not many people know this but the followers of Christ quoted the Old Testament **not in the original language** of the **scriptures but** a translation called **the Septuagint**.

The **Septuagint** was written **for Jews by Jews living in Egypt**, about **300 years** before the coming of **Christ**. The Septuagint is also recognised as the earliest complete translation of the Old Testament ever made and is written in the common Greek language (Koine) just like the New Testament.

Unfortunately the words **Ἰησοῦς** or **Ἰησοῦ** are not always translated as **Jesus as they should be**. ->> You can find 3 examples of this in Hebrews 4:8, Acts 7:45 and in Luke 3:29. The name of **Jesus** in the Bible has been selectively translated and replaced by the names **Joshua** and **Jeshua/Yeshua/Ieshua** etc. in modern Bible translations.

Note that **Ἰησοῦς, ΙΗΣΟΥΣ**, (Iésous) is the root word for **Jesus in Greek**. Then you change it depending on the situation e.g:

μετὰ Ἰησοῦ – **with Jesus**.

τοῦ Ἰησοῦ – **of Jesus**.

Hebrews 4:8 (The Greek Text)

Εἰ γὰρ αὐτοῦς **Ἰησοῦς** κατέπαυσεν, οὐκ ἂν περὶ ἄλλης ἐλάλει μετὰ ταῦτα ἡμέρας.

Correctly translated as:

For if **Jesus** had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. (KJV)

However, the NIV, and many other versions, translate this as:

For if **Joshua** had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. (NIV)

See: <https://biblehub.com/hebrews/4-8.htm#lexicon> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

<https://biblehub.com/interlinear/apostolic/hebrews/4.htm> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

https://theotex.org/ntgf/hebreux/hebreux_4_gf.html (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

Acts 7:45 (The Greek Text)

Ἦν καὶ εἰσῆγαγον διαδεξάμενοι οἱ πατέρες ἡμῶν **μετὰ Ἰησοῦ** ἐν τῇ κατασχέσει τῶν ἐθνῶν, ὃν ἐξῶσεν ὁ θεὸς ἀπὸ προσώπου τῶν πατέρων ἡμῶν, ἕως τῶν ἡμερῶν Δαυὶδ:

Correctly translated as:

Which also our fathers that came after brought in **with Jesus** into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David, (KJV)

However, the NIV, and many other versions, translate this as:
After receiving the tabernacle, our ancestors **under Joshua** brought it with them when they took the land from the nations God drove out before them. It remained in the land until the time of David, (NIV)

See: <https://biblehub.com/acts/7-45.htm#lexicon> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)
https://biblehub.com/greek/ie_sou_2424.htm (consulted 11 Apr 2026) (Scroll down until you find Acts 7:45)
<https://biblehub.com/interlinear/apostolic/acts/7.htm> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)
https://theotex.org/ntgf/actes/actes_7_gf.html (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

Luke 3:29 (The Greek Text)

τοῦ Ἰησοῦ τοῦ Ἐλιέζερ τοῦ Ἰωρεὶμ τοῦ Μαθθαὶ τοῦ Λευεὶ

Correctly translated as:
the son **of Jesus**, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi,

However, the KJV, NIV, and many other versions, translate this as:
the son **of Joshua**, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, (NIV)

See: <https://biblehub.com/luke/3-29.htm#lexicon> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)
https://biblehub.com/greek/strongs_2424.htm (consulted 11 Apr 2026) (Scroll down until you find Luke 3:29, it's right at the bottom of the page.)
https://theotex.org/ntgf/luc/luc_3_gf.html (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

From these three examples we can conclude that the translators of the NIV and many other translations did not make the correct translation of the Greek text. The Greek word **Ἰησοῦς** should be translated as **Jesus** not as **Joshua** or as **Jose** (found in the Vulgate the Bible version used by the Catholics).

In this way the translators have given millions of Christians the wrong idea that Moses' successor, leader of the Israelite army in Jericho (see Joshua 6: 2), and the person who defeated the Amalek (see Exodus 17: 13-14), was called **Joshua**. The Greek text, however, only has one possible translation: **Jesus**. Moreover, in the 6th book of the Old Testament, according to the Greek text, **ΙΗΣΟΥΣ**, should be translated **JESUS**, **not JOSHUA**.

See: <https://archive.org/details/septuagint-with-apocrypha.-greek-and-english-1851/page/282/mode/1up> (consulted 11 Apr 2026)
https://theotex.org/septuaginta/josue/josue_6.html (consulted 11 Apr 2026)

We also find the name of **ΙΗΣΟΥΣ/JESUS** written in capital letters in Greek in Matthew 27:37, where the Romans wrote the charge against Him, together with His name, in capitals.

ΙΗΣΟΥΣ Ο **ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ** ΤΩΝ ΙΟΥΔΑΙΩΝ - JESUS THE **KING** OF THE JEWS

See: https://biblehub.com/greek/strongs_935.htm (consulted 11 April 2026) (Scroll down to Matthew) <https://biblehub.com/text/matthew/27-37.htm> (consulted 11 April 2026)

The Old Testament

The mistranslation of the name of Jesus therefore occurs in both the New and Old Testaments. In the preface of the New International Version, the NIV Bible, the following is written:

“The New Testament writers, writing in Greek, often quote the Old Testament from its ancient Greek version, the Septuagint. This is one reason why some of the Old Testament quotations in the NIV New Testament are not identical to the corresponding passages in the NIV Old Testament.”

(NIV & KJV Parallel Study Bible, Zonderman, Michigan (USA) 2013)

In fact, the apostles to Christ, the writers of the New Testament only quoted the Old Testament **from the Septuagint** (LXX). And we know this because the Masoretic Text contradicts many of quotes they make from the Old Testament based on the Septuagint.

The name of Jesus is mentioned many, many times in the Septuagint. Both in the books of Moses as well as in the books of the prophets, like Jeremia.

So even in the Old Testament the name **Jesus** appears and is mistranslated and replaced by **Joshua** or **Jeshua**.

Joshua 3:9 (The Greek Text)

καὶ εἶπεν Ἰησοῦς τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ Προσαγάγετε ὧδε καὶ ἀκούσατε τὸ ῥῆμα κυρίου τοῦ θεοῦ ἡμῶν.

Correctly translated as:

Jesus said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.

However, the KJV, NIV, and many other versions, translate this as **Joshua** said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.

See: https://theotex.org/septuaginta/josue/josue_3.html (consulted 22 Mar 2025)
<https://biblehub.com/joshua/3-9.htm> (consulted 1 Apr 2025)

Ezra 2:36 (The Greek Text) (2 Esdras 2:36 in Theotex)

καὶ οἱ ἱερεῖς· υἱοὶ Ἰεδουα τῷ οἴκῳ Ἰησοῦ ἐννακόσιοι ἐβδομήκοντα τρεῖς.

Correctly translated as:

The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of **Jesus**, nine hundred seventy and three.

However, the KJV, NIV, and many other versions, translate this as:
The priests: the children of Jedaiah, of the house of **Jeshua**, nine hundred seventy and three.

The same kind of mistranslation is found a few verses further on:

Ezra 2:40 (The Greek Text) (2 Esdras 2:40 in Theotex)

καὶ οἱ Λευῖται υἱοὶ Ἰησοῦ καὶ Καδμηλ τοῖς υἱοῖς Ὡδουια ἑβδομήκοντα τέσσαρες.

Correctly translated as:

The Levites: the children of **Jesus** and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah, seventy and four.

However, the KJV, NIV, and many other versions, translate this as:
The Levites: the children of **Jeshua** and Kadmiel, of the children of Hodaviah, seventy and four.

Sources: <https://archive.org/details/septuagint-with-apocrypha.-greek-and-english-1851/page/619/mode/1up> (consulted 16 May 2026)
https://theotex.org/septuaginta/2esdras/2esdras_2.html (consulted 16 May 2026)
<https://biblehub.com/p/kjv/esv/ezra/2.shtml> (consulted 16 May 2026)

Based on the oldest complete translation of the Old Testament, the Septuagint, and the original language of the New Testament, Greek, the name of Jesus is mistranslated in our Bibles in several places in both the Old and New Testaments. Most English-language Bibles, including the King James Version, do not translate the name of Jesus as it appears in the Greek texts.

As a result of these mistranslations millions of Christians have come to believe that the Name of our Saviour, the only Name that saves, is far less prevalent in God's Word than it actually is.

We need to return to God's chosen language for our Bible, Greek. In this language, the Name of Jesus abounds in both the New and Old Testaments. And rightly so.

Ἰησοῦς, ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, Jesus is the only name that saves.

Read more about how the name of Jesus was selectively translated and replaced by the names Joshua, Jeshua/Yeshua/Ieshua etc. in the comprehensive document:

The Name of Jesus in the Bible: https://irp.cdn-website.com/e4e1af55/files/uploaded/The_name_of_Jesus_web-eddfae7e.pdf (consulted 16 May 2026)