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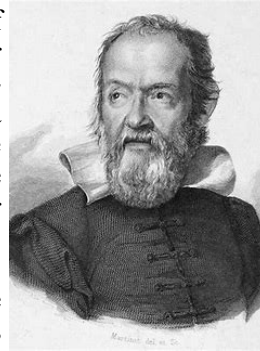
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MONONYMOUS

Agreed, mononymous is a mouthful to try and pronounce. However it is easy to understand its basic meaning, that being when a person reaches a level of notoriety they are recognized by one name. When such occurs they become mononymous. Seen below is a classic example, Galileo. Throughout history there have been a host of others; Cleopatra, Shakespeare, Plato, Voltaire and Elvis to name a few. All of these have etched themselves into the fabric of history for either what they did or who they are/were. But as note worthy as these names are and that for a variety of reasons, there is one name that stands out far above these names or for that matter any other name.



Peter as he and John stood before the rulers and elders, is quoted as having said, *"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved."* (Acts 4:12) In his letter to the Philippians, Paul wrote, *"Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow..."* (4:9-10a)

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14) *"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son and they shall call His name Immanuel", which translated, means "God with us."* (Matthew 1:23)

To be sure Jesus didn't come as some celebrity, rather He came humbly with a specific purpose; that being the redemption of mankind. He would willingly go to the cross, suffering the shame and anguish in order to offer the perfect, acceptable sacrifice (see Matthew 1:21; Hebrews 2:9-18) Joseph was directed by an

angel of the Lord, *"call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins."* (Matthew 1:21)

Thinking back to what Paul wrote to the brethren in Philippi, we left off in chapter two and verse ten, just before he wrote, *"of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of the Father."* (10b-11) While there are those who take pride in self by reaching the august rank of single name notoriety, nevertheless that noteworthiness is at best short lived. Who really remembers Gallagher or Mantovani?

The apostle John as he closed out his thoughts in the book of John, noted in chapter twenty, and beginning in verse thirty, *"Many other signs therefore Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."* Pay close attention to the last few words, *"you may have life in His name."* Indeed His name above all other names. Is it any wonder then that during times of great jubilation or abject need, the name we hold fast to is that of Jesus.

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father." (Colossians 3:17)

Factor in as well what John writes in his first epistle, chapter five and verse thirteen. *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life."* *"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned."* (Mark 16:16) (wbe)

THE BULWARK