

## A Hidden Message

I came across this video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tk5xzu-0NqMI>

It makes a very interesting claim about a hidden (or not so hidden) message given to mankind using the names of the 24 priestly family heads in ancient Israel. Here are those names in the Bible:

**(1 Chronicles 24:4)** Since the sons of El·e·a'zar had more headmen than the sons of Ith'a·mar had, they divided them accordingly: The sons of El·e·a'zar had **16** as heads of their paternal houses, and the sons of Ith'a·mar had **8** as heads of their paternal houses. (16 + 8 = 24)

**(1 Chronicles 24:7-18)** The first lot came out to Je·hoi'a·rib; the second to Je·da'iah,<sup>8</sup> the third to Ha'rim, the fourth to Se·o'rim,<sup>9</sup> the fifth to Mal·chi'jah, the sixth to Mij'a·min,<sup>10</sup> the seventh to Hak'koz, the eighth to A·bi'jah,<sup>11</sup> the ninth to Jesh'u·a, the tenth to Shec·a·ni'ah,<sup>12</sup> the 11th to E·li'a·shib, the 12th to Ja'kim,<sup>13</sup> the 13th to Hup'pah, the 14th to Je·sheb'e·ab,<sup>14</sup> the 15th to Bil'gah, the 16th to Im'mer,<sup>15</sup> the 17th to He'zir, the 18th to Hap'piz·zez,<sup>16</sup> the 19th to Peth·a·hi'ah, the 20th to Je·hez'kel,<sup>17</sup> the 21st to Ja'chin, the 22nd to Ga'mul,<sup>18</sup> the 23rd to De·la'iah, the 24th to Ma·a·zi'ah.

Well i wanted to confirm the meanings of those names myself. The following is my research into the meaning of those names. First is the definition in the JW Insight volumes. Then, after // is the definition from Strong's Concordance. The third set of sources follows ///.

Abbreviations used:

EBD - Easton's Bible Dictionary - 1897

FBD - Fausset's Bible Dictionary - 1969

HBoD - Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible - 1898

HPC - Hawker's Poor Man's Concordance And Dictionary - 2005

HBD - Holeman Bible Dictionary - 1991

ISBE - International Standard Bible Encyclopedia - 1915

SBD - Smith's Bible Dictionary - 1863

BDB - Brown, Driver, Briggs Hebrew Lexicon - 1906

**Jehoi'arib** = May Jehovah Contend; Jehovah Has Conducted [Our] Legal Case // the LORD contends /// Jehovah will defend (FBD) ; Yahweh creates justice (HBD); Yahweh pleads or contends (ISBE); Jehovah contends (BDB)

To contend is to maintain or assert that something is true or is a fact.

**Jeda'iah** = Jah Knows // Yah has known /// Yah has performed a merciful deed (HBD); Yah knows (ISBE); Jehovah has known (BDB)

Jehovah has known from the beginning. (Ge 3:15)

**Ha'rim** = Devoted; Banned // consecrated /// dedicated (HBD); flat-nose (EBD); flat-nosed (SBD); dedicated (BDB)

To dedicate something means to set it apart for a specific purpose.

**Seo'rim** = (none) // (none) /// barley (BDB)

Nisan 16 marked the start of the first harvest of the year based on the sacred calendar. On that day the high priest was to *"bring a sheaf of the firstfruits"* of the barley harvest and wave it *"back and forth before Jehovah"* at the sanctuary. (Leviticus 23:5-12)

**Malchi'jah** = My King Is Jehovah // my king is Yah /// My King is Yahweh (HBD); Yah is king (ISBE); my king is Jehovah (BDB)

**Mij'amin** = From the Right Hand // (none) /// from the right hand (EBD, HBD, SBD, BDB)

The right hand is a position of authority, prestige, and favor. (Ps 110:1; 1Pe 3:22; Mt 25:33)

**Hak'koz** = The Thorn // (none) /// The thorn (EBD, HBD); thorn (SBD); the nimble (ISBE); thorn (BDB)

Can represent rulership. (Jg 9:14, 15; Mt 15:17; Jn 19:2)

**Abi'jah** = My Father Is Jehovah // Yah is my father /// "my father is Yahweh," or "Yahweh is father" (ISBE); Jehovah is (*my*) father (BDB)

**Jesh'ua** = Jehovah Is Salvation // (none) /// Yahweh is salvation (HBD); a savior (SBD); he is saved (BDB)

The name of Jesus in Hebrew.

**Shecani'ah** = Residence of Jehovah // Yah has taken up His abode /// Yahweh has taken up residence (HBD); dweller with Jehovah (SBD, BDB)

**Eli'ashib** = My God Returns (Brings Back) // God restores /// God repays or leads back (HBD); whom God restores (SBD); God restores (ISBE, BDB)

**Ja'kim** = Jah Has Raised Up // He lifts up /// Establisher (EBD); He caused to stand (HBD); whom God sets up (SBD); he (God) lifteth Up (ISBE); He will raise (BDB)

**Hup'pah** = Shelter // (none) /// shelter or roof or bridal chamber (HBD); protected (SBD); protection (ISBE); canopy (BDB)

**Jesheb'eab** = May the Father Continue to Dwell; or, possibly, Jehovah Has Brought the Father Back // seat of (his) father /// "the father remains alive" or "He brings the father back" (HBD); father's seat (SBD); dwelling of the father (BDB)

**Bil'gah** = Brightening // cheerfulness /// Cheerful (EBD); brightness (HBD); first-born (SBD); cheerfulness (HBoD, ISBE, BDB)

**Im'mer** = (none) // (none) /// lamb (HBD), he hath said (BDB)

**He'zir** = Pig; Boar // (none) /// swine or strong (EBD); wildpig. (HBD); swine (SBD, BDB)

In Hebrew culture the Gentiles were considered swine. (Le 11:7; Ac 10:28)

**Hap'pizzaz** = possibly from a root meaning "smash" // to break /// to break (BDB)

**Pethahi'ah** = Jah Has Opened [the Womb] // (none) /// Loosed of the Lord (EBD); Yahweh opens (HBD); gate of the Lord (HPC); Yah opens up (ISBE); freed by Jehovah (SBD, BDB)

**Jehez'kel** = May God Strengthen; God Has Strengthened // God strengthens /// whom God makes strong (SBD); God strengthens (HBD, ISBE, BDB)

**Ja'chin** = May [Jehovah] Firmly Establish // He will establish /// Firm (EBD); Yah established (HBD); he shall establish (SBD); he will establish (ISBE, BDB)

**Ga'mul** = possibly, One Weaned (or, One Receiving Due Treatment) // weaned /// receiver of good deeds (HBD); weaned (EBD, HDoB, ISBE, BDB)

An unweaned infant drinks milk, but a mature Christian eats solid food. (1Co 3:2; He 5:12, 13)

**Dela'iah** = Jehovah Has Drawn Up [in deliverance] // Yah has drawn /// God has raised (ISBE); Jehovah has drawn (BDB)

**Maazi'ah** = Jehovah Is a Stronghold // (none) /// Strength or consolation of Jehovah (EBD); Yahweh is a refuge (HBD); consolation of Jehovah (SBD, BDB)

Definition sources:

<https://biblehub.com/lexicon>

<https://studylight.org/study-desk.html>

<https://studylight.org/lexicons/eng/hebrew.html>

Here is the raw message using the direct meaning of the names:

Jehovah contends. Jehovah has known. Dedicated. Barley. My king is Jehovah. From the right hand. The thorn. Jehovah is my father. Jesus. Dweller with Jehovah. God restores. Jehovah has raised up. Shelter. Dwelling of the Father. Cheerfulness. He has said. Swine. To break. Freed by Jehovah. God strengthens. He will establish. Weaned. Jehovah has drawn. Jehovah is a stronghold.

The message?:

Jehovah asserts as fact that He has known and dedicated the Messiah. My king is Jehovah and from His right hand comes the King of the people. My father is Jehovah. Jesus dwells with Jehovah. God will restore and raise up His earthly dwelling place, which will bring cheerfulness. He has said: Gentiles will be broken free by God. God will strengthen, establish, and bring them to maturity. Jehovah has drawn them. He is their refuge.

I will leave it up to you to decide if the "hidden message" has merit, but it seems very plausible to me.

What do *you* think?

yb

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