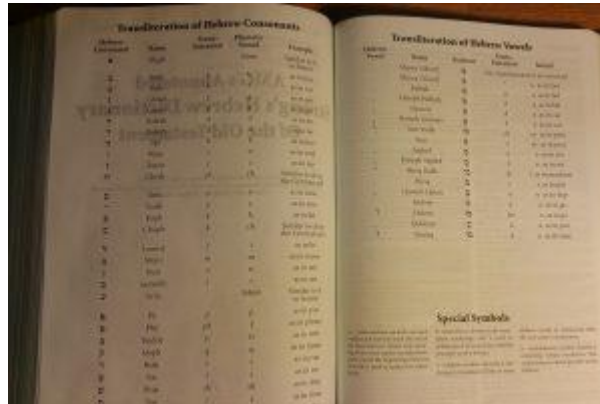


# Back to the Father

## Your Journey

The Word of God

### Transliterations



A transliteration is a word that has been rendered in another language by substituting the corresponding letters of the alphabet rather than translating the meaning of the word. It is from the Latin meaning "across letters". The word **baptism** is a transliteration of the Greek word **baptisma** which means to immerse, plunge into or surround with. John the **Baptist** is a transliteration whereas John the **Immerser** would be a translation.

It is important to understand the meanings of words that have been transliterated so we can better grasp what is being conveyed.

A good example of this would be the word **Amen** that is a transliteration of a Hebrew word signifying that something is certain, valid, truthful, or faithful. If we were to just say the word with out knowing its meaning we would not know what we were agreeing to or with.

Listed below are some other words that are commonly transliterate.

The English word **deacon** is a transliteration of the Greek word **diakonos**, which simply means "servant."

**Golgotha** is a Greek transliteration of an Aramaic word meaning The Place of the Skull. The word **Calvary** comes from the Latin Vulgate **Calvaria**, a variation of **calva**, "a skull." Golgotha was a rounded rocky knoll vaguely resembling the shape of a human skull.

**Parable**" is a transliteration of the Greek **parabole**, it means to compare, place side by side. a parable is a short discourse that conveys spiritual truth by making a vivid comparison. The truth to be taught is compared to something in nature or a common-life experience. A parable usually expresses a single important truth.

**Corban** is the Greek and English transliteration of a Hebrew word **qorban** that describes a gift devoted to God.

**Gehenna** is a Greek transliteration of the Hebrew **gehinnom**, it was a deep, narrow glen to the south of Jerusalem, where the idolatrous Jews offered their children in sacrifice to Molech. This valley afterwards became the common receptacle for all the refuse of the city. Here the dead bodies of animals and of criminals, and all kinds of filth, were cast and consumed by fire that was always kept burning. It became in time the image of the place of eternal destruction.

**Abba** is a Greek and English transliteration of the Aramaic word **ab** that means father.

Our English word **metamorphosis** is a transliteration of the Greek word. **metamorphoo** which describes the process that changes an insect from a larva into a pupa and then into a mature insect. The changes come from within. We see this word used in Scripture to describe the process that is to take place in the children of God (*Rom 12:2; 2 Cor 3:18*).

**Apostle** is the transliteration of Greek word **apostolos**. An apostle is a person that has been commissioned to be a messenger.

**Mystery** is the transliteration of the Greek word **mysterion**. It speaks of a secret hidden in the past that becomes revealed.

**Mannon** is the Greek transliteration of the common Aramaic term **mamona** that speaks of wealth of any kind.

**Blaspheme** is the transliteration of **blasphemeo**. It means to reproach or revile; it is a malicious misrepresentation.

**Hallelujah** is a transliteration of two Hebrew words, **halal** and **yahh** which means "Praise Yahweh or Jehovah."

**Hosanna** is a transliteration of the Greek word, which is itself a transliteration of two Hebrew words, **yasha** and **na**. It was originally a prayer addressed to God, meaning "O save us now"

The name **Christ** is the transliteration of **christos**, a Greek word meaning the anointed one and is the translation of the Hebrew word from which we get the word messiah.

**Messiah**" is the English equivalent of the Latin **messias**, it is derived from Greek **messias**. It is the transliteration of the Hebrew **mashach**; anointed; usually a consecrated person as a king, priest, or saint.

The English name **Isaiah** is an approximate transliteration of the abbreviated form **Yehsa'yah**, It means "Jehovah is salvation," and is therefore synonymous with Joshua or Jeshua.

**Jesus**, from the Greek **Iesous** is a transliteration of the Hebrew **Yehowshuwa** from **Yehovah** and **yasha** "Joshua," meaning "Jehovah is salvation. It was the name of the successor to Moses. When he was to become the leader, his name was changed from Hoshea to Joshua. The name Yahweh, or Jehovah, was added to it so that Hoshea, salvation, became Joshua, the salvation of Jehovah.

Below is the Greek alphabet that has been transliterated into English along with the names of the Greek letters.

Alpha A, a a as in father,  
Beta (B, b ) b as in boy  
Gamma G, g g as in good  
Delta D, d ) d as in dog  
Epsilon E, e e as in egg  
Zeta Z, z z as in zoo  
Eta H, h e as in gate  
Theta Q, q th as in thug  
Iota I, i i as in pit  
Kappa K, k k as in king  
Lambda L, l l as in lump  
Mu M, m m as in mud  
Nu N, n n as in never  
Xi C, c x as in vex  
Omicron (O, o o as in ought  
Pi P, p p as in put  
Rho R, r r as in rod  
Sigma S, s, \$ s as in sad  
Tau T, t t as in to  
Upsilon U, u u as in full  
Phi F, f ph as in foot  
Chi X, x ch as in loch  
Psi Y, y ps as in tipsy  
Omega (W, w o as in old

When a person is aware of words that have been transliterated and not translated it gives them the opportunity to dig deeper into the meaning of these words. Hopefully this will lead to a better understanding of the heart and mind of God. As helpful as information like this may be when studying the scriptures, it should never take the place of us seeking God for his wisdom so that we can truly understanding his word and live it out in our lives.