

Prophecy and Names:

Session 1: The Bible Uses Name Meanings

Paul reminded Philemon of the significance of his runaway slave when he included the meaning of the slave's name, Onesimus in his letter. Onesimus, means "useful."

"Onesimus (Useful) who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me"
(Philemon 1:10-11).

Paul wrote that Onesimus was useful, just as his name foretold. (Although Philemon probably needed some convincing of that fact.) Paul connected the meaning of Onesimus's name purposefully to provide hope, encouragement and direction to the situation.

- Names are the prophetic pump that gets the water flowing.
- Names are more than just nice sounding words that identify one object from another.
- Names prophesy the connection between identity and destiny.
- Sons, daughters, husbands, wives are titles based upon relationships.
- King, queens, princes, princesses are titles given based on anointings.
- Names give us distinction in our anointings and relationships.

And the angel of the LORD said to him, “Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?” (Judges 13:18) Wonderful describes knowledge that is beyond comprehension. David uses the same Hebrew word in Psalm 139:14 *“For I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”* There is something wonderful and mysterious about names that will help guide us on our prophetic journey.