

Wikipedia

The first part, **hallelu**, is the second-person imperative masculine plural form of the Hebrew verb hillel. However, "hallelujah" **means** more than simply "praise Jah" or "praise **Yah**", as the word hallel in Hebrew **means** a joyous praise in song, to boast in
God.

John 20:

³⁰ And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

³¹ But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

- John the Baptist continues his witness (chapter 1 verses 28-36):

John 1:

²⁸ These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.

²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.

- Question: Consider John's statement as if you were a Jew come to get baptized. You would be familiar with the idea of the sacrificial lamb. From the Old Testament, how are lambs and the blood of lambs tied into your history? How were lambs used to make atonement for sin?

Exodus 12 (Passover):

¹And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying,
²This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. ³Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: ⁴And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: ⁶And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

Exodus 12:

⁷ And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

.....

²³ For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. ²⁴ And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

Leviticus 4 (Sin Offering):

²² When a ruler hath sinned, and done somewhat through ignorance against any of the commandments of the LORD his God concerning things which should not be done, and is guilty;

²³ Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a male without blemish:

²⁴ And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the LORD: it is a sin offering.

²⁵ And the priest shall take of the blood of the sin offering with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out his blood at the bottom of the altar of burnt offering.

- Now pulling in the new Testament books...

Hebrews 10:

¹ For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

³ But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

- To take away sin requires the sacrifice of a lamb or goat. The problem is that neither of these sacrifices can take away our sins and clear our conscience, they can only cover our sins.
- Every person was required to offer sacrifices for their own sin. The death of one lamb or goat was limited in how many people it covered.
- Bottom line, any honest person was soon to realize that they would constantly need to offer sin sacrifices again and again and again ...
- Who could truly wash away my sins? There is a hint in Genesis.

Genesis 22:

¹ Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."

Genesis 22:

⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.

⁷ And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

⁸ And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

John 1:

²⁹ The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and said, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

- This is how the sin of the world can be washed away

1 Peter 1:

¹⁸ Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

¹⁹ But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

²⁰ Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Hebrews 9:

²¹ Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. ²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission (of sin). ²³ It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: ²⁵ Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest enters into the holy place every year with blood of others; ²⁶ For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

John 1:

³⁰ This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me.

³¹ And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

³² And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

³³ And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Ghost.

- I struggle some with John saying “I knew him not”.
- In Matthew 3 we can see that John recognized Jesus and that Jesus was far more righteous than he (this was before John baptized Jesus).

Matthew 3:

¹³ Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. ¹⁴ But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and you come to me? ¹⁵ And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. ¹⁶ And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: ¹⁷ And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

- Wuest expanded translation: “I did not know him in an absolute way”
- Chuck Smith commentated that John did not know that Jesus was the Messiah.
- From the verses in the book of Matthew we read what John apparently didn't know before the Spirit descended upon Jesus, whether or not Jesus was “he that should come”

Matthew 11:

² Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, ³ And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?

⁴ Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

John 1:

³³ And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Ghost.

- Question: How many baptisms does the Bible list?

Acts 19:

¹ And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, ² He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. ³ And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. ⁴ Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied.

- John's baptism of water unto repentance: Preparation
- A believer's baptism of water in the name of the Lord Jesus: Recognition
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit: Empowerment (Acts 1)
- J. Vernon McGee added the world judgement baptism of fire.

John 1:

³⁴ And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

³⁵ Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;

³⁶ And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he said, Behold the Lamb of God!

³⁷ And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus.

John 1:

³⁸ Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and said unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, which is to say, being interpreted, Master, where dwellest thou?

³⁹ He said unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour (3-4 PM).

⁴⁰ One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon, and said unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

- From Andrew's response, I would say that John's testimony worked: "We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ"
- That testimony continues through us today.

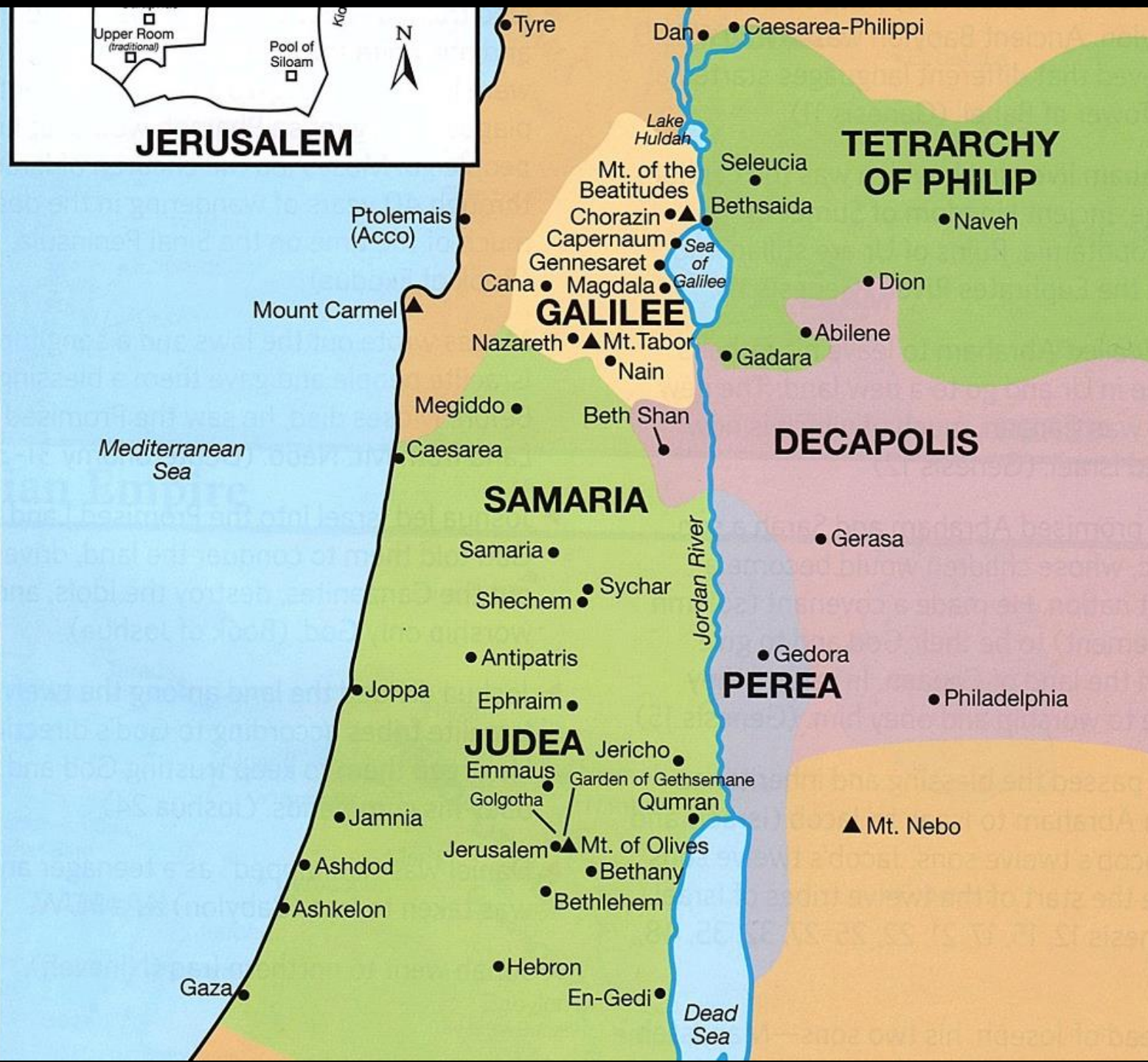
John 1:

⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, You are Simon the son of Jonah: you shall be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, a stone.

⁴³ The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and found Philip, and said unto him, Follow me.

⁴⁴ Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

- So Bethabara was close to the Galilee region. The Dead Sea is some 70 miles south. I personally disagree with the Codex Sinaiticus translation which renders “Bethabara” as “Bethany” because Bethany is near Jerusalem some 70 to 80 miles south of the Sea of Galilee and not in the wilderness.



John 1:

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael, and said unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

⁴⁶ And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip said unto him, Come and see.

⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile (deceit)!

⁴⁸ Nathanael said unto him, how do you know me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.

John 1:

⁴⁹ Nathanael answered and said unto him, Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.

⁵⁰ Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto you, I saw you under the fig tree, you believe? you shall see greater things than these.

⁵¹ And he said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.

- Where have we seen the phrase “the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man” before?

Genesis 28:

¹⁰ And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put them for his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed; ¹⁴ And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of. ¹⁶ And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.

Job 9:

³² For he is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment.

³³ Neither is there any daysman (mediator) between us, that might lay his hand upon us both (between Job and God).

- Jesus came as a man to bridge the gap between heaven and man
 - Jesus is the ladder
 - Jesus is the mediator
 - Jesus gives us access to heaven
 - Surely the Lord is in this place

