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The name Shuah: Summary

Meaning

Brought Low, Prostration

A Cry, Prosperity

Etymology

From the verb שוּחַ (*shuah*), which denotes a motion towards a low position.

From the verb שוּעַ (*shawa*), to cry out (for salvation), or יָשַׁע (*yasha'*), to save.

Related names

- Via שוּחַ (*shuah*): [Jeshohaiah](#), [Shuham](#)
- Via שוּעַ (*shawa*) and יָשַׁע (*yasha'*): [Abishua](#), [Bar-Jesus](#), [Bath-shua](#), [Chemosh](#), [Elisha](#), [Elishah](#), [Elishua](#), [Hosanna](#), [Hosea](#), [Hoshaiah](#), [Isaiah](#), [Ishi](#), [Jason](#), [Jeshua](#), [Jesus](#), [Joshua](#), [Malchi-shua](#), [Mesha](#)

The name Shuah in the Bible

There are four different [Hebrew](#) names that transliterated into English form the name Shuah, or variations thereof depending on the translation. The name שוּעַ, Shoa (or variations thereof) is spelled the same as one of the Shuahs but pronounced slightly different.

The first Shuah (שוּחַ; pronounced *shuach*) is a son of [Abraham](#) with [Keturah](#) (Genesis 25:2). A famous descendant of this Shuah (we assume) is [Bildad](#) the Shuhite (שוּחִי in Job 2:1, 8:1 and 42:9, or שוּחִי in 18:1 and 25:1), one of the four friends of [Job](#). A feminine variation of this name occurs in 1 Chronicles 4:11: שוּחָה (Shuhah; pronounced *shuachah*), which is assigned to a (female?) descendant of [Judah](#).

A completely different name occurs in Genesis 38:2 and 38:12: שוּעַ (pronounced *shua'*), where it is the name of the father of a wife of Judah (perhaps also known as Bath-shua — Genesis 38:12). A variant of this name occurs in 1 Chronicles 7:32: שוּעָא (pronounced *shua'a*), where it is assigned to a daughter of [Heber](#), a granddaughter of [Asher](#), son of [Jacob](#).

The name Shoa (שוּעַ) occurs in Ezekiel 23:23, where it is the name of a [Chaldean](#) tribe.

Etymology of the first two names Shuah

The names שוה and שוחה come from the verb שוה (*shuah*), denoting a motion towards a low position:

Excerpted from: Abarim Publications' Biblical Dictionary

שחה

The verb שחה (*shahah*) means to bow down or be bowed down, crouched or humbled. Adjective שח (*shah*) means low or lowly.

Verb שוה (*shuah*) means to sink, or to be bowed down or humbled. Nouns שוחה (*shuha*) and שיחה (*shiha*) mean pit.

— See the full Dictionary article —

Shuah meaning

The name of this son of Abraham (Genesis 25:2) and the name of this perhaps female descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:11) mean **Brought Low** or **Put In A Pit**. Jones' Dictionary of Old Testament Proper Names reads **Prostration**.

Etymology of the second two names Shuah and Shoa

The names שוה and שוע look like they have something to do with the verbs שוע (*shawa*), to cry out (for help), and ישע (*yasha'*), meaning to be saved or delivered:

Excerpted from: Abarim Publications' Biblical Dictionary

ישע שוע

The verb ישע (*yasha'*) means to be unrestricted and thus to be free and thus to be saved (from restriction, from oppression and thus from ultimate demise). A doer of this verb is a savior. Nouns ישועה (*yeshua*), ישע (*yasha'*) and תשועה (*teshua*) mean salvation. Adjective שוע (*shoa'*) means (financially) independent, freed in an economic sense.

Verb שוע (*shawa'*) means to cry out (for salvation). Nouns שוע (*shua'*), שוע (*shoa'*) and שועה (*shawa*) mean a cry (for salvation).

— See the full Dictionary article —

Shuah and Shoa meaning

BDB Theological Dictionary lists the Shoa as mentioned in Ezekiel 23:23 under the root שוע (*shawa*), meaning to cry. This name thus means **A Cry**.

BDB Theological Dictionary refers both versions of this form of Shuah to the verb ישע (*yasha'*), meaning to be saved. The names of the father of Judah's wife (Genesis 38:2) and the Asherite woman (1 Chronicles 7:32) may therefore mean **Noble**.

However, there is a peculiar noun that is used in Job 30:24 and 36:19, that is spelled שוע. Some translations take this word to mean 'riches' (NAS, KJV), although BDB Theological Dictionary says that a derivation from שוע (*shawa*), to cry, is preferred, and HAW Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament doesn't even list the alternative of riches.

Still, NOBSE Study Bible Name List reads **Rich** for Shoa and **Prosperity** for all variations of Shuah. Jones' Dictionary of Old Testament Proper Names reads **Wealth** for Shua.

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