Teaching Letter 12

The Power of Jesus' Name

"And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Acts 2:21, NIV).

Our adversary the devil does not want people to hear or know the Name of Jesus. He knows the power of that Name. He fears it. He hates it. He will do anything he can to stop it from going forth. He fights that Name today just as he has always done. Why?

"And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Acts 2:21, NIV).

"... In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6, KJV).

"Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NKJV).

"But Paul . . . said to the spirit, 'I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour" (Acts 16:18, RSV).

We are "washed. . . sanctified. . . justified in the name of the Lord Jesus" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:11, RSV).

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it, and is safe" (Proverbs 18:10, NKIV).

"**B**ut unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings" (Malachi 4:2, *KJV*).

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20, KIV).

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17, 18, KIV).

"If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14, KJV).

That's a few reasons. Satan fights that Name and those who believe and speak that Name. We should not be surprised as we see this occurring around us and even against us.

The good news is that Jesus' Name is higher and stronger than all that come against it. In the Book of Revelation, Jesus is victorious over all that oppose Him. He has several names in Revelation. For example in Revelation 19 He is called "the Lord God omnipotent" (v. 6), "the Lamb" (v. 7), "Faithful and True" (v. 11), "The Word of God" (v. 13), and "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" (v. 16). He also "had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself" (v. 12). This is a very victorious passage of Scripture. It gives a picture of how things turn out in the end.

Until then, we, like the first-century apostles and believers, and believers since then, face choices regarding the name of Jesus. Choosing to stand for Jesus and the truth of God was not easy for them. Neither is it easy for many in our day. Around our globe we hear reports of Christians

suffering greatly for the name of Jesus. We can see dark clouds arising in our nation.

"And they [the priests and elders] called them [Peter and others apostles], and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus" (Acts 4:18, *KJV*).

"... \mathbf{a} nd when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus" (Acts 5:40, KIV).

What was their response?

"And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:41, 42, KJV). They rejoiced and continued to teach and preach.

They also prayed: "And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:29-31, KIV).

God gave them the courage and boldness they needed because they asked. He also gave them the signs and wonders they asked for as they continued to speak in the name of Jesus. We need courage, boldness, wisdom and love. We must speak the name of Jesus in love to anyone who is without Him. We must speak the truth about Jesus.

His name is Yeshua—which is translated "Jesus" and means Savior, Deliverer and Healer. It means "God is salvation." This salvation is allencompassing. His name announces to the world that He is everything we need.

I call on the name of the Lord daily—and I say it that way. I want to keep the power of that Name continuously working in my life. Won't you join me? SH

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY
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