



## The Power of Jesus' Name

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### Introduction:

Last year when we built our home, I was amazed at all the tools that were used in the process. There were drills, and hammers, saws, pliers, screwdrivers, wrenches, and on and on I could go. Those tools were used in a positive way to build a home where my family and I live. Those same tools of power could have been used to destroy, to tear down. In fact those tools had great potential, but unless the people who used them understood the manner in which they should be used and actually used them in the proper way, they were useless. There are tools that God makes available to us. They can remain dormant, or they can be used in a positive way to bring God glory, and to bless other people.

This month we are going to be looking at the power God trusts us with as human beings. It is important that we understand the source of power available to us, what its purpose is and how we can best use that power to do God's work. God does not provide tools for us to have them unused. God wants us to be empowered. He has not simply created us and then left us here powerless. This month we want to see what God's word has to say about the power we have and how that can be useful in our daily lives.

God makes available to us tremendous power. He has given us the power of choice, the power of intellect, the power of will, the power of communication.

Power is a tremendous force. With it we can bring comfort, warmth, manufacture goods, and do good things, or that power can be abused and bring suffering, pain, and sorrow. The same is true with the power that God has made available to us. We can use it to bless and comfort, or misuse it to bring pain. This morning we want to focus our thoughts at what God's Word has to say about the power that is available to us in Jesus name.

**Philip. 2:9-11** Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### I. Jesus' name is above every name

No other name has greater power and authority associated with it in heaven or earth. I think of the names of some powerful people who lived. Some used their power for good, some for evil.

I think of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King. These men did good things with the power they had. Their name has a certain association with the powerful things they accomplished while they lived. When I was in college, I studied the Roman Empire and the power that that emperors had. But no leader, past, present or future will ever be as powerful as Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Jesus is the name that has been given to our Savior - God's only begotten Son. When the prophecies of Christ were given, it was said, "His name would be called Jesus for He would save His people from their sin."

## II. There is power to forgive sin in Jesus name

There is no other savior from our sin. Scripture is very clear that the only name, by which we must be saved from sin, is the name of Jesus.

**Acts 4:12** – “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

A person becomes well known for what they have done, or what they can do. Their name is synonymous with their work. The Name of Jesus is recognized as the Savior.

We are to use the Name of Jesus to point people to what He came to do. In Isaiah, these words were prophesied about Christ’s work and when Jesus lived here in the flesh, one day at the temple He took the scroll and read these words from the prophecy about Him. He came to preach good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. (**Isaiah 61:1**) It is our privilege and responsibility to share the power there is in Jesus’ Name and the work He does.

It is the Name of Jesus and the work that He did on the cross that we trust in for our salvation. It is the name of Jesus and His work that we are to share with others so they can find salvation as well.

## III. What we ask of God in Jesus Name will be given to us

**John 16:23** - “**And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you.**”

I don’t believe that this means we ask God for luxury cars and boats. If we ask with the motive to use what we receive for ourselves, we are asking amiss so we can consume it on our own lusts and the Father has no responsibility to answer those requests. The request should be such that it will advance His work, it is in line with His will, and His kingdom will be expanded in the lives of people.

He honors and gives to us the requests that are in line with His will and what will advance His work. I believe this is what Jesus the Son of God was communicating. You can ask God the Father and requisition on my behalf what is needed to accomplish the task I

am leaving you to do. Since I have told you to use my name and ask the Father, and since He recognizes my name, He will give you what you ask.

There is history associated with your name. So it is with Jesus’ name. When we come to the Father, He looks at what is being requested, and sees how this fits into His plan.

## IV. Signs accompany the use of Jesus’ Name

Jesus also told his disciples that through the power of His name, signs would accompany those who were believers. The signs would validate the message of the believer, and advance the kingdom of God.

**Mark 16:17-18** – “**And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.**”

Every one of these signs is important for the work of God to advance. Today we are just as much in need of the power available to us in Jesus’ name as at any other time in history. Don’t think for one minute that these signs are any less important than they were in Jesus’ day. God is God, He doesn’t change and neither does His power.

Are we still asking in His name? Are we asking for deliverance, protection, salvation, healing?

When we read the accounts in the book of Acts of the Apostles, it was these signs that validated the preaching of the gospel and caused people to respond to the message. The signs were not to increase the assets of the early church or to build bigger synagogues. The signs were not to bring fame to the one God used to validate their message. These signs were for no other reason than to give proof that the message preached about Jesus being alive was true. These were the same proofs that accompanied Jesus ministry while He was alive in the flesh.

I remember an incident when I called on Jesus’ name for protection. Our family was traveling to visit Julie’s parents for the holidays. We were traveling on an East West State Highway and the road was snow covered. We were coming to the intersection of another highway (North-South) and had to stop. It was

a two lane highway and there was an incline on the road approaching the intersection. There was a vehicle that was traveling toward us in the other lane, which had just crossed the intersection. As the vehicle went past us, we began to spin out. It was a very out-of-control situation. As our van left the highway, all I could say out loud was "Jesus help us." We were headed toward a telephone pole with nothing to

stop us. We came within inches from that pole and stopped dead in our tracks. When I checked, everyone was OK - just shaken up. I said "Jesus help us get out of here." I put the van in reverse, backed up without getting stuck, got back onto the highway and finished the trip without incident. The power of His name was there to protect and help us.

**Conclusion:**

- I. Jesus' Name is above all names
- II. There is no other name where we have salvation
- III. What we ask of God in Jesus' name will be given to us
- IV. Signs accompany the use of Jesus' Name