

Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Precious Name!

Focus Verse: Acts 4:12 - Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among

men, whereby we must be saved.

Lesson Text: Isaiah 12:1-6; Matthew 1:21; Acts 4:12; 22:16 **Truth About God:** Saving power is in the name of Jesus. **Truth For My Life:** I will call on the name of Jesus.

God's name reveals His nature and character and the revelation of God's name invites relationship with Him. Therefore, we should honor God in every possible way. Paul's letter to the Colossians admonished to do everything in Jesus' name: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17). We pray in Jesus' name, giving honor to God. We are saved exclusively by His name.

The name *Jesus* means "Yahweh, our salvation." It comes from the Hebrew word *Yeshua* or *Joshua*, which means "the LORD is salvation." When the time was right to reveal His name, God orchestrated everything to take place in perfect timing. It was finally time for Isaiah's prophecies to be fulfilled (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6). God revealed His name to Mary and Joseph first: "Emmanuel, . . . God with us" (Matthew 1:23). <u>His name is Jesus</u>. Soon the world would know. Jesus came to build a relationship with humanity and bring salvation. His mission focused on His people. To know His name was to know His mission. When we call on Jesus' name, it becomes personal. Jesus is Jehovah, our Savior. He came for us.

Before Christ came, we were bound for a life of meaningless wandering, like spiritual zombies, so to speak. We were walking without purpose, existing without hope. We were helpless to help ourselves, but when we took on the name of Jesus, our lives were completely changed. When God revealed His name was Jesus, our Savior, we had no reason to search anywhere else for our salvation. Today, salvation is offered to everyone who calls on His name (Romans 10:13).

We are no longer identified with the world; we are now identified with Jesus Christ. We put off the old person (who we used to be). Instead of being dead in sin, we are dead to sin and no longer slaves to it. We cast off sin like it is an old, tattered coat. We arise alive, putting on a new coat of salvation, with the Spirit of God living in us. We exchange a life of sin for the glory of a new creation in Jesus. Only through His blood are we cleansed by baptism in His name, washing away our sins (Acts 2:38). His name is a <u>precious name</u> above all others because by the name of Jesus we are saved.

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11). No other name can heal us, provide for us, or protect us. Only the <u>precious name</u> of Jesus can save us, forgive our sins, and raise us up when He returns to take us to Heaven.

Jesus' name has power, whether we shout it or whisper it. When we call on the name of Jesus, we demonstrate our faith in Him. We show our faith in the God who owns that name. When we call on the name of Jesus, we give God the opportunity to meet our needs. Calling on His name is confessing Jesus is the name of Almighty God in the Old Testament. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

When we call on the name of Jesus, we engage all power in Heaven and earth. Jesus promised: "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14). We have access to healing, deliverance peace, and the answer to many other needs just by speaking the name of Jesus in prayer. Jesus included a very powerful statement in His Sermon on the Mount when He said: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7). We can be assured He is just waiting for us to ask.

How can we share the name of Jesus with others without being pushy or self-righteous?