

## THE POWER OF HIS NAME

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### Text: John 14:9-14

As you know, a name can convey volumes about an individual if the name is associated with a person's great works, high office or position in society. When someone is a powerful or influential person, using their name in the right way or at the right time can sometimes lend you some of their influence.

For instance, you have probably heard someone offer their assistance to someone of lesser or unknown standing in a business or social matter by saying, "Feel free to use my name. Just tell them that \_\_\_\_\_ sent you." This action is meant to influence others and or to lend authority to one's request.

As the disciples of Jesus Christ we have been given a charge by the Lord to undertake certain actions that will build up the Kingdom of God and tear down the kingdom of satan. However, we also know that within our own selves we do not have the power to accomplish what the Lord has asked us to do. This is why we must rely upon His power and His authority!

Jesus knew our inadequacies as human beings and this is why He said in essence, "When you go out in my name—USE my name." In our text we are going to look at two important *factors* that are directly related to the privilege of using the name of Jesus.

### **I. THE PRIVILEGE OF USING JESUS' NAME IS BASED ON THE DYNAMIC OF THE RELATIONSHIP.**

#### **A. Jesus always acknowledged that the source of His power was in His unity with the Father (vv. 9-12a).**

In John 14:9-12, "Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves.

**B. When we place our complete faith in Jesus Christ we tap into—become a part of—the power of the divine relationship (v.12a).**

**Jesus said**, “I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing.” NIV

“The title of Christian is a reproach to us if we turn our selves away from him after whom we are named. The name of Jesus is not to be to us like Allah of the Mohammedans or like a talisman or an amulet worn on the arm as an external badge in the symbol of a profession thought to preserve one from evil by some mysterious and unintelligible potency. Instead we should allow the name of Jesus to be engraved deeply on the heart, written there by the finger of God himself in everlasting characters. It is our sure and undoubted title to present peace and future glory.”

--William Wilberforce, *Real Christianity*. Christianity Today, Vol. 30, no. 9.

## **II. THE PRIVILEGE OF USING THE NAME OF JESUS IS BASED ON TRANSFERRED MERIT (vv. 12b-14).**

**A. We will be able to “do” because of what He has *done* (v. 12b).**

**Jesus continues**, “He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” NIV

In his book *My Utmost for His Highest*, Oswald Chambers writes, “There is nothing thrilling about a labouring man’s work, but it is the labouring man who makes the conceptions of the genius possible; and it is the labouring saint that makes the conceptions of his Master possible. You labour at prayer and results happen all the time from His standpoint. What an astonishment it will be to find, when the veil is lifted, the souls that have been reaped by you, simply because you had been in the habit of taking your orders from Jesus Christ.” (p. 215)

**B. Jesus will respond to our actions and words of our faith in order to bring glory to the Father.**

“And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.” (v.13) NIV

**C. The perfect picture of Jesus as both Servant and Savior is brought together in the power of His actions.**

**This is why His name is so powerful!**

**Jesus concludes with,** “You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.” (v.14) NIV

- As Servant, He has submitted all to the Father.
- **As Savior,** He has given power to the powerless.
- As Servant, He speaks only what brings glory to the Father.
- **As Savior,** He liberates the captive through the power of His name.
- As Servant, He does only what gives glory to the Father.
- **As Savior,** He equips and empowers God mighty army to go out and conquer with the authority of His name.
- As Servant, His eternal purpose is to bring glory to the Father.
- **As Savior,** He is faithful and able to accomplish what He has promised.

## **CONCLUSION**

As we have seen, by entering both into a relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and depending upon the merit of His works we are empowered to fulfill our calling through the power of His name. When we ask the Father for something in Jesus’ name all of His clout, authority, position, and standing with the Father are brought to bear on the resulting response of the Father.

For the sake of the Son, who always seeks to glorify Him and to do His will, God the Father responds to us who do His will in this life with the power to accomplish the work at hand. With the assurance of such a promise we are without an excuse if we fail to prevail in prayer.

## References

Chambers, Oswald, (1963). *My utmost for his highest*. Barbour and Company, Westwood, NJ.