

New Bridge Church - Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Gabe Palmer Taking The Name

I. What is in a name?

- A. A name is an identifier. It is the word or phrase that is meant to capture the essence of a thing.
- B. We are told to believe in Jesus name (1 John 3:23), pray in Jesus name (John 14:13), gather in Jesus name (1 Cor.5:4), be baptized in Jesus name (Acts 2:38), preach in Jesus name (Luke 24:47), that we are justified in Jesus name (1 Cor. 6:11), bow at Jesus name (Phil. 2:10), do everything in Jesus name (Col 3:17)
- C. What does it mean to do all these things in the name of Jesus? Is it simply to say "In Jesus name" every time we do any of those things? Surely not, for in Acts 19:13, some iterate Jewish exorcists tried to invoke the name of Jesus to deliver people from demons and things didn't turn out well for them.
- D. Jesus tells us that His name and his glory that He received from the Father causes oneness to happen among us.

John 17:9-11 ESV I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one....(v. 20-23) I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.... (v.26) I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.

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II. Identity

John 1:12-13 ESV But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

- A. Names speak to the essence of who we are. They are powerful indicators of
 - 1. Identity
 - 2. Heritage
 - 3. Purpose
- B. A father's surname is passed on as the surname to the children. The children take on the 'identity' of their father, both good and bad. A father sets identity in the nucleus of society, the home.
- C. To have your name immortalize is everyone's deepest desire. Why? It speaks of our identity and significance.
- D. We attach our name to almost anything that will outlast us so we can attempt to immortalize ourselves, even if everything that name represents passes away.
- E. We do this with monuments, street names, businesses, books, achievements, etc.
- F. Identity is wrapped up in a name. When we believe in the 'identity' (or name) of Jesus we are brought into his identity as children of God, born of God.
- G. Our nature or essence is changed when we are born of God. We take on his name.
- H. As children of God that have been given a new identity in Christ we are to bear the name faithfully

III. The Glory of His Name

- A. God's glory is wrapped up in his name. His name is his identity.
- B. When God first introduces himself to Moses at the burning bush Moses asks how to identify him to others, God tells him his name. Yahweh, I AM. (Exodus 3:13-14)
- C. He is the self defining one. There is nothing in creation that we can point to to define God. God defines everything, nothing defines God.
- D. Later on Moses asks to see Yahweh's glory and God again declares His name.

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Exodus 33:12-23 ¹²Moses said to the Lord, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." ¹⁴And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?" ¹⁷And the Lord said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." ¹⁸Moses said, "Please show me your glory." ¹⁹And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.'"

- F. Moses has experienced some of the greatest manifestations of God that has ever been expressed on earth. Burning bush, staff turned into snake and back again, 10 plagues, Red Sea parting, healed waters, bread from heaven, water from a rock, supernatural earthquakes, fire, smoke, sounds of trumpets, and God's audible voice. Why did he ask to see God's glory after all of this?
- G. Why did God say that He will proclaim His name to Moses when Moses asked to see His glory?
- H. A name describes the character of that which it belongs too. The children of Israel were content in seeing God's acts, Moses wanted to know His ways. (Psalms 103:7)

Exodus 34:5-8 ⁵The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. ⁶The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." ⁸And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

- I. God's glory is his essence and his essence is mercy, grace, long-suffering, steadfast love, faithfulness, forgiveness and justice.
- J. We've been given his name, his character that we may be suitable for him for all eternity.

Galatians 5:19-23 *Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger,*

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rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

IV. Receiving His Name

Isaiah 56:5 ESV I will give in my house and within my walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.

K. The most intimate relationship God created for mankind is the husband/wife relationship. It is greater in intimacy, authority, privilege, and partnership than that of parent/child relationship.

L. In the marriage covenant, the bride takes on the grooms surname.

M. The covenant relationship that God makes with humankind is symbolized in the marriage covenant. In Revelation 14:1 and 22:4 John sees the saints with the name of the Father on their foreheads. Revelation 7:3 says that these names on the forehead are a seal.

Revelation 7:3 “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Revelation 14:1 Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads

Revelation 22:4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads

N. As the bride being given in marriage to Jesus the Bridegroom, we are to bear His name faithfully.

V. Receiving His Name in vain

Exodus 20:7 You shall not take the name of The Lord your God in vain, for The Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

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- A. The Hebrew word that is translated as 'take' is 'nasah', which means to lift, carry or take.

- B. The seal of a marriage covenant is the bride trading her name for the bridegrooms. When a bride takes the name of the groom, she is saying she will remain faithful to love and serve her bridegroom until death. If she is unfaithful and gives her affections to another and does not honor the covenant made between them, then she would be taking his name in vain. Saying the words at the altar, going through the motions but not actually being true to her part of the covenant.

- C. In the same way, we take the name of the Lord in vain by saying the prayer, going through the motions of religion, but not losing the identity of our former life and taking on the identity of God, the righteous life. We take the Lord's name in vain by giving our affections to other things and not loving him with all our heart, soul, strength and mind