

THOU SHALT CALL HIS NAME JESUS

Matthew 1:21

INTRODUCTION

- Today we are here to worship Jesus Christ, and our focus this morning is on his name: Jesus
- Names are used to identify people
- In Bible times, names were highly significant and selected to describe the child, and the hopes of the parents for him
- God has revealed himself to us through his name
- The chief name of God in the Old Testament is “Jehovah” – the covenant name that denotes the self-existence, independence, immutability, and infinite fullness of the divine Being: the I AM
- In the New Testament, the chief name of deity that reveals God’s work of redemption through the Second Person of the Godhead, is JESUS
- The name of Jesus is “as ointment poured forth” (Song of Solomon 1:3) – there is grace, life, peace, joy, contentment, wisdom, and every other good thing found in that name

I. THE NAME OF SALVATION

A. Divinely given

1. This was not left to man’s choice
2. Numerous people in Scripture were named by God
3. Names are important to God

B. Jesus – *salvation of Jehovah*

1. The name for the Son of God incarnate was first revealed to Joseph by the angel of the Lord in a dream
2. This is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua/Jeshua (cf. Acts 7:45; Hebrews 4:8), transliterated in the New Testament as “Jesus” (*Iēsous*)
3. His name indicates the source of salvation – the Lord (Jonah 2:9; Isaiah 43:11)
4. Christ had visited the earth prior to his incarnation, but for judgment, not salvation (Genesis 18-19)

5. The entire ministry of Jesus Christ as Prophet, Priest and King can be summed up by the word *Saviour* (Luke 2:11)
6. His primary mission in coming into the world was not to teach or to leave us an example to follow, but to redeem sinners by his blood (Matthew 18:11; 20:28; 1 Timothy 1:15)
7. We must be careful we do not merely take our morality from the Bible, and miss out on the heart of the gospel, which is personal faith in the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ

II. THE MINISTRY OF SALVATION

- A. The Person who saves - *he*
 1. The salvation of Christ differs from every other religious means of salvation
 2. It is not a formula of religious acts that man must perform
 3. It is wholly the work of Christ on behalf of man
 4. It is the difference between *do* and *done*
 5. He redeems by the price of his own life (John 1:29; Hebrews 1:3)
 6. He saves by his almighty power (Isaiah 63:1)
- B. The certainty of His salvation – *shall*
 1. His salvation is not doubtful but assured (Zephaniah 3:17; 1 John 5:13)
 2. He saves not partially, but unto the uttermost that come unto God by him (Hebrews 7:25)
 3. His salvation requires no human contribution
 4. Those whom he saves shall never perish (John 10:28)
 5. Those who come to him, he will in no wise cast out (John 6:37)
- C. The subjects he saves – *his people*
 1. He is not the Saviour of all humanity, but of only “his people”
 2. The Jews
 - a. Christ, after the flesh, came as a Jew (Romans 9:5)
 - b. His primary ministry was to the Jews (Matthew 15:24)
 - c. But His own people received Him not (John 1:11)
 3. All believers, Jew and Gentile (John 10:16)

- a. He is the Saviour of all men, effectually to those who believe (1 Timothy 4:10)
- 4. None of us enter this world as “his people”, but as aliens, strangers, without God (Ephesians 2:12)
- 5. “Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.” (1 Peter 2:10)
- 6. We become “his people”, not by natural birth, but spiritual birth (John 1:12-13; James 1:18)

III. THE EXTENT OF SALVATION

- A. It is not primarily salvation from the wrath of God
 - 1. We are under God’s wrath because of our sin
 - 2. It is when we are saved from sin, we are then saved from wrath (Romans 5:9)
- B. He saves from *sins*
 - 1. Some would rather that he had come to save them from the mere *consequences* of sin, such as poverty, pains, death
 - 2. Many want a saviour from their *problems* but not their sins
 - 3. They do not realise that to save from sins is to save from all these
 - 4. There is no greater foe and no greater malady than SIN
 - 5. It was sin that brought the entire universe under a curse
 - 6. “*Sin is the great block and bar to our happiness, the procurer of all miseries to man, both here and hereafter: take away sin and nothing can hurt us: for death, temporal, spiritual, and eternal, is the wages of it.*” (Bunyan)
 - 7. Christ will save none but those who are willing to forsake their sins
- C. He saves from *their* sins
 - 1. This is not merely *sin* in general, but our individual debts of sins against God
 - 2. Our every offence against a holy God was laid upon Christ (1 Peter 2:24)
- D. He saves *from* sins
 - 1. Not *in* our sins

- a. The Prodigal Son did not remain with the swine when he repented (Luke 15:11-32)
 - b. Christ did not save Mary Magdalene to remain with her seven devils, he saved her from them (Luke 8:2)
 - c. Christ did not save Zacchaeus *in* his theft and extortion, he saved him *from* them (Luke 19:8-9)
 - d. Christ did not save the Corinthians *in* their fornication, idolatry, sodomy, drunkenness, etc, he saved them *from* those sins (1 Corinthians 6:9-11)
2. “You must be saved *from* sin not *in* sin as some seem to imagine. The latter is like saving a man from drowning by keeping him under the water which is destroying him; or like recovering a man from sickness by leaving him under the malady which constitutes the *complaint*.” (Wm. Jay)
3. His salvation results in a pure and holy life
- E. He saves from the penalty, power and presence of sin
- 1. From the guilt, curse, condemnation of sin
 - 2. From our love, habit, practice of sin

CONCLUSION

- 1. The most blasphemed by the world is the name of Jesus
- 2. But God has made this name the highest name, and every knee bow at the name of Jesus when he comes in glory (Philippians 2:9-11)
- 3. There is none other name whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12)
- 4. To the name of Jesus we must give ourselves in life, in worship, in service, in labour, in suffering and in death
- 5. We are to do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:17)
- 6. The Jesus who saves is also the Jesus who *destroys* (James 4:12)
 - ✓ He destroys the devil and his works (Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
 - ✓ He destroys death (1 Corinthians 15:26)
 - ✓ He destroys those who reject him (Matthew 10:28; 2 Thessalonians 1:9)
- 7. Note that while “the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them” (Luke 9:56), we judge ourselves unworthy of everlasting life by rejecting him
- 8. Are you one of “his people” he saves from sin through repentance and faith in him?