

About that Name

The Apostle Paul stated, "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" (Phil 2:9-11).

It seems like as each year goes by the name of Jesus becomes less accepted by the world. And no more is that seen than at Christmas time. It seems that the secular humanistic society that we live in goes all out at this special time of the year to stamp out any mention or recognition of the name of Jesus Christ. They do not want the title "Christmas" used simply because it has within it the title "Christ" which also speaks of Jesus.

My friend whether or not you like the name of Jesus Christ He still is real and still is the Lord of Glory! You can do all you want to do in not allowing this name to be spoken of; written about; or read in public places; still the name of Jesus Christ is the name above every name that the Apostle Paul speaks of in the aforementioned text.

To me the name of Jesus means that I have a Savior, one who gave His life for me and not also for me but also for the entire world on the Cross of Calvary around 2000 years ago. To me the name of Jesus means that I have one whom God the Father raised from the dead and sits at His right hand for ever making intercession for my sins. My friend He can also be your Savior and your Intercessor.

Why does the majority of the world hate the name of Jesus? Let's look at what I believe are some reasons for this hatred of this name above every name:

1. If one accepts Jesus Christ for who He really is they must also accept God the Father as being real. The world we live in today seems to have no time for God except when a disaster takes place in their lives, and then they just want to use Him as a "crutch" or a "spare tire."

For one not to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ is not to believe in God Himself. Many religions today teach about a higher deity but want to leave out the person and name of Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God. In fact John 1:18 states, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him." In fact one cannot be saved and not believe in the Trinity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Jesus was more than just some man whom history records as going about doing good deeds and causing a disruption among the religious crowd. No! He was God incarnate in the flesh dwelling among men with a purpose of going to the Cross to die for the sins of the world.

In accepting Jesus Christ for who He really is means to accept the truth of His Virgin Birth. This means that Jesus was born without sin because He was not of the seed of a man, but of the seed of a woman. He was conceived of the Holy Ghost. If He had come from an earthly father then He would have been a sinner like the rest of us.

2. When one hears the name of Jesus Christ it convicts them of their sins if they are lost; but if they are saved it confirms their salvation and forgiveness of sins. Which one does it do for you my friend? Does it convict you or comfort you? Rom. 3:23 states, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." In 1 Cor. 15:3 the Apostle Paul states in part that "Christ died for our sins"

And because man is naturally a sinner he doesn't want to hear anything that reminds him of his unholy transgressions against a Holy God. And that is exactly what the name of Jesus Christ does when the sinner reads about, or hears it spoken to him.

3. When hearing the name of Jesus Christ, the lost man is reminded of his finite condition. Man sees that

he is nothing within himself, but in the Lord Jesus Christ man has everything because Jesus Christ is everything. Men can try everything in this world to find peace in their lives; but the only true peace is found in the "Prince of Peace" the Lord Jesus Christ. Man can belong to every great benevolent organization in this world; but it will not allow him to escape the judgment of God. Man can accomplish great feats in his lifetime but they are nothing when it comes to pleasing the Holy God of the Universe. Eph. 2:8, 9 states, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." There is nothing that can have preeminence over the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. When the name of the Lord Jesus Christ is brought up during the Christmas season the lost man recognizes that the season is not about him but about the Christ in the title of Christmas. At Christmas time many try to out give each other in seeing who can give the biggest and most expensive gift hoping in return to receive the same. But if they would only stop and think that one night around 2000 years ago God gave to mankind the greatest gift that could ever be given. It was a gift of greater value than anything that can be found on this earth; it was a gift greater in size than any that could be found on this earth. As stated many give gifts hoping to get something for self in return. But God gave His Son, not that we might repay Him in some great way, but because He loved us.

So in closing does the name of Jesus bother you? If it does just remember what the text verse stated, "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"(Phil. 2:9-11).

Just remember this: everyone has a date with the Lord Jesus Christ; you can know Him now as Lord and Savior, or you can know Him later as Lord and Judge. Which will it be?