CONFRONTING THE CHALLENGES OF 2012

PART FOUR: IN THE POWER OF THE NAME

Scriptures: Matthew 1:20,21; Luke 1:31-33; Philippians 2:5-11

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2012

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. Proverbs 18:10

The name (44) My name (24) His name (11)
Jesus' name (1) Other name (1)

OBSERVATIONS

1. The very first INSTRUCTION given to Joseph and Mary concerning the child that would be born was regarding His NAME.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:20,21;

You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end." Luke 1:31-33

2. In the early church SALVATION and FORGIVENESS were proclaimed through the NAME of JESUS.

Then He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:45-47
All the prophets testify about Him that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name." Acts 10:43

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. Acts 4:12

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

3. The early believers proclaimed HEALING through the NAME of JESUS.

Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. Acts 3:6,7

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified but Whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Acts 4:8-10

4. The apostles and the early believers CAST OUT EVIL SPIRITS through the NAME of JESUS.

This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her. Acts 16:17,18

5. We are told in Philippians 2:9-11 that JESUS has been given the name that is ABOVE every NAME that at the name of JESUS every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that JESUS CHRIST is LORD, to the GLORY of God the Father.

RESPONSIVE READING

Matthew 1:20,21; Luke 1:31-33; Philippians 2:5-11

THE NAME OF JESUS

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife,

because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."

You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end."

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name,

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.