

*man is my chosen instrument to bring my NAME before the nations.....” (Acts 9:15a) NEB*

*“If on your lips is the confession, ‘Jesus is Lord’, and in your heart the faith that God raised him from the dead, then you will find salvation.” (Rom. 10:9) NEB*

*“From Paul, apostle of Jesus Christ at God’s call and by God’s will..” (1 Cor. 1:1a) NEB*

*“We come therefore as Christ’s ambassadors. It is as if God were appealing to you through us: In Christ’s NAME, we implore you, be reconciled to God!” (2 Cor. 5:21) NEB*

*This article originally was published in THE BURNING BUSH in 1981, and we believe the message is as timely today as it was then. May God be glorified through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### **POWER IN A NAME**

We are impressed at this time to share some of the thoughts that this series of Scripture verses brings to mind. As we are preparing this issue of the Burning Bush Newsletter, it is January, 1981. President Reagan has not yet been inaugurated as President of the United States, and Henry Kissinger is on a vacation trip in the Middle East. As the news media is covering the story of Kissinger, they are pointing out a curious dilemma. Mr. Kissinger is a well known diplomat, who has spoken often in the name of the President and the nation, but now he has no authority to speak in those names. Therefore, some of the countries he is visiting and their ‘Heads of State’ are refusing to receive him. He is the same man, has the same talents, the same knowledge and abilities, but he is no longer endowed with the NAME ‘Secretary of State’ for the United States of America. Oh, the power in a NAME.

#### **WITNESSING TO THE NAME**

Over the years, in sharing with our Christian brothers and sisters, we have noticed an interesting fact that is perhaps an oversight. Often in sharing a testimony of what the Lord has done for us, the **name** of **Jesus** may not even be mentioned. This was brought home to us most clearly in two separate instance in the last few months. Two different people in our community had been physically healed by the Lord Jesus. Both of them had been diagnosed as beyond medical help. Very significant physical healing! One man had been through 4 operations. The end had been reached in medical assistance, so they simply sent him home to die a very painful death. The Holy Spirit working through his wife got him to come to a charismatic prayer meeting that meets in Dublin, and through the ministry of the gifts of the Holy Spirit (Word of Knowledge, Word of Wisdom, Prophecy, Healing and Miracles) on that first night, the man was delivered from the pain and fear, and the following week the Lord Jesus moved to heal the disorder.

The testimony to the love and mercy and power of God is a moving story. He would share the story as often as the Lord gave him the opportunity, even as he does today. However, in one of our conversations, it became apparent that the honor and glory given to God in his testimony did not often include the name of Jesus. The references were to the ‘Lord’ and God, but curiously enough seldom the name of Jesus.

The other significant healing was involving cancerous tumors that the Lord Jesus had again dealt with through the ministry of the gifts of the Holy Spirit during a charismatic prayer meeting. Again, testimony of the healing was given often, but seldom with the name of Jesus as a part of the sharing. The ‘Lord’ and God were the references. Among Christians it may seem like an insignificant detail to mention the actual Name Jesus, but God does not think so according to our few verses above. We invite you to do your own study through the New Testament to let the Holy Spirit speak to you on this matter, and you may find that you will get a similar understanding.

This whole question was brought up again recently when one of these people was sharing how she had told her doctor about the healing that God had done in her. The doctor responded that he, too, believed in god, and then proceeded to share who his god was and how his god worked in his life, he was Hindu!. It was easy to tell from the conversations that the god he knew had no resemblance to the God of Christianity who made Himself known in the person of Jesus.

#### **INCREASING AWARENESS**

Fr. Greely, the Author and Sociologist, wrote a book in a series with the subject and title WHAT A MODERN CATHOLIC BELIEVES ABOUT GOD. He points out that all people have a ‘god’, and the discussion reveals that the word god is simply applied to the most controlling factor in their lives. Our experience over the years has shown us that to many people Hare Krishna is ‘god’, or Rev. Moon is ‘god’, or any other set of images that they have chosen to place in their lives as the key controlling factor. The Book of James in the second chapter, verse 19-20 has an interesting comment on this: “You have faith enough to believe in God. Excellent! The devils have faith like that, and it makes them tremble.” But let us remember that a person who believes in God is properly called a Deist, we are called Christians. We are to bear our witness to the name and person of Jesus the Christ.

We certainly do not want to put upon anyone a formula or format for giving testimony of the power of God at work in our lives, but simply point out a potential deficiency in our awareness. If our neighbor’s son did a good deed for us, we would give credit for the deed to the boy by name. The parents would share in the joy by knowing that their efforts in training the boy were fruitful. But to simply say that the neighbors son had done something for us would be incomplete, not giving

proper honor where honor was due.

In each case when we have taken the time to point out the omission of the name of Jesus in a person's testimony, the results has been an increased awareness of the name and person of Jesus in every area of their lives, and that is wonderful.

### JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

God has irrevocably linked himself to all humanity through His Son, the man **Jesus**. As a human person, **Jesus** defeated the adversary, Satan. God, our God, the God of all creation, is one with humanity in the person of **Jesus**, Emmanuel. God with us. When the mission of **Jesus** was completed on this earth, **Jesus** willingly went to the cross, out of love for us and obedience to His Father, and **Jesus** paid the full price for our forgiveness and redemption. He died. Then, in the power of the Holy Spirit, **Jesus** defeated the last stronghold of the enemy, death itself, and in the power of the Holy Spirit, He rose from the dead never to die again. Therefore, **Jesus** was given a name above all other names, because He had gained mastery over all that was separated and alien to God. He had defeated Satan at every turn; **Jesus** is master and Lord.

What are the names **Jesus** has mastery over? Satan, and all his works. Sickness? Yes. The person and Name of Jesus the Christ is more powerful than any and all sickness! Disease? Yes! Poverty? Yes! Anger? Jealousy? Bitterness? Death? Yes, and yes!! **Jesus** is the "Yes!" pronounced upon all of God's promises. "For as many as are the promises of God, they all find their Yes (answer) in Him (Christ). For this reason, we also utter the Amen (so be it) to God THROUGH Him — that is in His Person and by His agency — to the Glory of God." (2 Cor.

1:20 Amp.). In the same manner now, God is irrevocably joined with those people who have given their allegiance to **Jesus** and are placed by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ. Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ **Jesus** our Lord. (Romans 8:39) God has indeed given us His best; the best robe for our covering, (**Jesus**); shoes for our feet, (standing on the Good News of Jesus); and a signet ring of authority for our finger, (the NAME of **Jesus**). (see Luke 15:11-24)

### AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST JESUS

As we walk in this world, we must let the Holy Spirit fill us with the awareness of who we really are, representatives of the name and person of **Jesus**, the Christ of God. If we will think about this whole question for a time we will see that to give the glory to God in our conversations does not necessarily give any glory to Jesus, but to give glory to **Jesus** in our conversation will indeed give glory to God. We are diplomats to the human race from our Father in Heaven, and our credentials are **Jesus**. Jesus told us that to receive us is to receive Him, and the Father who sent Him. Let us grow in our pride in the person and kingdom we represent, and keep our credentials current with love for our Father, service for our brother, and victory over our foe, Satan, as we walk IN **Jesus** NAME.

*Father, let you Holy Spirit take these words and reveal to each of us the fullness of understanding you want us to have about the importance you place on the NAME of Jesus. We thank you, Father, and we give you all the praise, in Jesus name. AMEN.*

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# And You Shall Call HIS NAME

# JESUS

By Pat Mullins

*"Jesus the came up and spoke to them. He said: 'Full authority in heaven and on earth has been committed to ME.'" (Matt. 28:18) NEB*

*"So that all men may give honor (reverence, homage) to the Son, just as they give honor to the Father. [In fact] whoever does not honor the Son, does not honor the Father who sent Him." (John 5:23) AMPLIFIED*

*"That in (at) the NAME of Jesus every knee should (must) bow, in heaven and on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue [frankly and openly] confess and acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Phil. 2:9-11) AMPLIFIED*

*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will bear witness for ME in Jerusalem, and all over Judaea and Samaria, and away to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) NEB*

*"And at the NAME of Jesus, by awakening faith, has strengthened this man, whom you see and know, and this faith has made him completely well,...." (Acts 3:16) NEB*

*"But the Lord said to him, 'you must go, for this*