

House of Prayer, Part 5

February 15, 2015

Today wrap up series on inexhaustible topic of prayer

Properly using the name of Jesus in prayer

- not just a traditional tag at the end

Names define, reveal, character and nature of person — or God

I. Exodus 34:5-7

a) Proclaims Name, then reveals His nature. "LORD" Eternal, Self-Existent, All-Sufficient One, Who is merciful, gracious, longsuffering, abounding in....

2. Matthew 1:21

b) Yeshu'a — Name of Jesus — means Salvation

3. The Name of Christ

c) "The Name of Christ is the expression of everything He has done and everything He is and lives to do as our Mediator."¹ Andrew Murray

Are your prayers reflective of Who Jesus is and what Jesus does?

**In essence "Father, I'm asking this in Jesus' Name
because this is something He is and does."**

Rights to use Jesus Name

"With Christ in the School of Prayer" Andrew Murray²

I. Legal union with Him

- power of attorney, empowered representative
- Luke 10:17-10 — disciples cast out demons — in His Name

Jesus name gave power over demonic forces; then the authority, exousía, legal right is given to reinforce ability of disciples.

**Every follower of Jesus
has the legal right
to use the Name of Jesus over the enemy!**

¹ Andrew Murray, *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, (Fleming H. Revell Company, 1885) books.google.com

² ibid

Powerful Andrew Murray quote:

"What does it mean to do a thing in the name of another? It is to come with his power and authority, as his representative and substitute...The free use of someone else's name is always a token of great confidence and close union. Someone who gives his name to another stands aside to let that person act for him. Someone who takes the name of another gives up his own as of no value. When I go in the name of another, I deny myself. I take not only his name, but himself and what he is, instead of myself and what I am. Christ's servants have the spiritual power to use the Name of Jesus only insofar as they yield themselves to live only for the interests and the work of the Master. The use of the Name always supposes the surrender of our interests to Him Whom we represent."³

Second right to use the Name of Jesus

2. Life union with Jesus

- a) as parents and child have life union, use same name
- b) John 17:21-23 — that they may be one as We are one
- c) 1 Corinthians 6:17 — he who is joined to the Lord is one Spirit with Him

We share union life with God, through Jesus, a shared life, a spiritual life!

"Oneness of life on earth (as in a family) gives oneness of name: It is the same with Jesus and the believer: We are one; we have one life and one Spirit with Him. For this reason we may proceed in His Name. Our power in using that Name, whether with God, men, or devils, depends on the measure of our spiritual life union with Christ. Our use of His Name rests on the unity of our lives with Him."⁴

Third right to use the Name of Jesus

3. Love union with Jesus

- a) Ephesians 5:25-33 — as Jesus beloved bride
- b) Ephesians 5:25 — Christ loved the church
- c) Ephesians 5:32 — Christ and the church, a great mystery

"When a bride whose life has been one of poverty becomes united to the bridegroom, she gives up her own name to be called by his, and has the full right to use it. The heavenly Bridegroom does nothing less. Having loved us and made us one with Himself, what can He do but give those who bear His Name the right to present it before the Father, or to come with it to Himself for all they need?"⁵

**Because of our legal, life, and love union with Jesus
we get to use His Name!**

³ ibid

⁴ ibid

⁵ ibid

Fourth right to use the Name of Jesus

4. Jesus told us to use His name

- a) John 14:13-14 — whatever you ask in My name
- b) John 15:16 — whatever you ask the Father in My name
- c) John 16:23-24 — whatever you ask the Father in my name

Jesus gave us full permission to ask, to pray in His Name, expect to receive!

"Whatsoever ye shall ask in my Name, that will I do." Jesus means that promise literally. Christians have sought to limit it because it looked too free. It was hardly safe to trust man so unconditionally. They did not understand that the phrase "in my Name" is its own safeguard. It is a spiritual power which no one can use further than his living and acting in that Name allows."⁶

In other words — because "in the name" means "in the nature," you can't ask for something that's contrary to His nature and expect to receive. "In the name" only allows you to go as far as Jesus nature and nowhere else, thus the safeguard.

The Name in action

Legal, life, love union, and permission to use His Name — the disciples understood this

- a) Acts 3:1-8 — disciples healed lame man in the name of Jesus

There is no question they understood power of and permission to use the Name.

- b) the crowds marveled at the miracle, Peter needed to respond
- c) Acts 3:12-16 — faith which comes through Him

**...not us, our power, our godliness that made this happen...
it is His Name, faith in His Name,
faith which comes through Him...**

- a) all Jesus, none of us
- b) faith in His Name
- c) source of faith is Jesus Himself
 - a) Who He is, what He did, what He taught

Proposal from Pastor Steve

Start using His Name — understanding our legal, life and love union with Jesus, combined with His permission, to start asking and believing for great things.

Reminder

Philippians 2:9-11— "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

⁶ ibid

**There is no greater name in all the universe than the Name of Jesus,
everything, everyone, everywhere must bow the knee to that Name
and confess His Lordship over everything —
let's start using the Name with faith, not just empty tradition!**

Discussion Questions

- 1.** God reveals His name and nature in Exodus 34:5-7. How does this compare with what you perception of who God is?
- 2.** How could your prayers be more reflective of who Jesus is and what Jesus does?
- 3.** What does it mean that we have been given the “legal authority” to use His name? When would you need to pray with this power?
- 4.** Read John 17:21-23. Express what these verses mean to you personally.
- 5.** Andrew Murray states, “Our power in using that Name, whether with God men or devils, depends on the measure of our spiritual life union with Christ.” How have you found this true in your life?
- 6.** Ephesians 5:32 — what is the great mystery this speaks of?
- 7.** These three verses that say, “...whatever you ask in My name, that I will do...” are some of the most misunderstood, and misused verses in the Bible. What is the “safeguard” in each one of these?
- 8.** Jesus has given us the “legal, life, love, and permission” to use His name. We in ourselves cannot make anything happen. What else do we need to have that comes through Him?
- 9.** When we say the source of our faith is Jesus Himself, what does that mean?
- 10.** Do you feel more equipped now to pray powerfully — than you did when this sermon series began. Have you already been putting these principles to use in your life?

Click on "House of Prayer" on www.gracechapel.net to fill out a prayer request.

(The prayer request can be anonymous.)

**We will pray for requests for one month at our weekly prayer meetings —
starting Tuesday, February 17th, at 6:30 p.m.**

COME!

PRAY!

BELIEVE!

SEE!