

## In the Name of Jesus

*John 16:22-24*

*So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.*

*23 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.*

*24 Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.*

Princess Bride's Vizzini: INCONCEIVABLE! Inigo: You keep using that word, I don't think you know what it means.

- Name of Jesus is not magical formula to get whatever want...signed blank check
  - But Name of Jesus has effect on how we pray and what we pray for.

3x Upper room discourse Jesus says ask "in my name". *John 4:13, John 15:16, John 16:23, Proverbs 22:1*

- Then name represented person himself and therefore all of his character/work.
  - "good name" = good rep. Still true: Hitler, Billy Graham, YOU?
- Name of Jesus represents all that he is...his entire character and work.

Up to this point disciples had asked nothing in His name because not possible or effectual because Jesus' work wasn't completed. *John 16:13, John 17, 22-23*

• 2 "ask" different Greek words. 1<sup>st</sup> inquiry to get info, 2<sup>nd</sup> petition to get gifts.  
1<sup>st</sup> Not depend on or ask Jesus questions about his depart/return because He'll be gone.

- Promised indwelling Holy Spirit will lead into all spiritual truth of Jesus' death/resurrection.

2<sup>nd</sup> ask= Soon requests not directed to incarnate Jesus but directly to heavenly Father.

- Have personal access to Father because of Jesus, who died for us. Ephesians 2:13 7 18
  - "in my name" evidence of new relationship with the Father....because of Jesus' life, death and resurrection sonship possible. Approach Father because Jesus made us acceptable. *Romans 5:1-2*

"In His name" authorizes Christians to petition Father on Jesus' authority, not our own.

- Equivalent to "on my account" or "for my sake".
  - Son authorizes his friends to ask his father for help and though undeserving favor given by father "thru" son.... boy and soldier

"In His name" affects not only how pray (directly to Father w/Jesus' authority) but also what we pray for.... anything consistent with Jesus' character and work.

- Request that Jesus would authorize me to put His name on.
  - Prayer Jesus himself might offer.
- "in Jesus' name" implies surrender of interest to him whom you represent.

- similar to "according to his will". John 14:13, 1 John 5:14-15, Matthew 6:8-10

Purpose of prayer not man's will done in heaven but God's will done on earth that His name may be exalted, glorified, hallowed.

- Prayer is part of the Lord's sanctification process, it changes us not God.  
Romans 12:2
  - A way of bringing our priorities/desires in line with Lord's.
- If seek God's will 1<sup>st</sup> ...many times desires/prayer change. Psalms 37:4, Matthew 6:33
  - Even good natural desires like protection, healing, provision etc. become subordinate to God-glorifying desires. Quick death!
- Find great contentment when pursue God's will above own desires.  
You'll find....prayer in Jesus name is a path to incredible joy. John 16:24
- Name of Jesus authorizes Christians to petition Father directly for anything consistent w/who Jesus is....asking glorifies God and humbles us!
  - Jesus guarantees we will receive any request in harmony w/His will for purposes of living holy and carrying on His work.
    - That answered prayer will result in our fullness of joy because it's evidence of our relationship w/Father...our sonship.