

THE NAME JESUS, LUKE 1:31
(CHRISTMAS LESSON)

Let us look to the Word of God today for a beautiful thought out of the Christmas story that our hearts might become enlarged and increased that we might grow in grace and in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour Jesus Christ. In Luke, the first chapter, verse thirty-one we have this precious words:

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS (Luke 1:31).

Jesus is that Name which is above every Name. Let us just meditate upon that Name of Jesus that we might get a glimpse of the Power of that Name. How how beautiful to celebrate Christmas and to thank upon that Name that is above every Name. In Matthew, the twelfth chapter, and verse twenty-one, we find the Word of God saying:

And in his name shall the Gentiles trust (Matthew 12:21).

How marvelous is that Name! Now, remember, the Gentiles, the Word of God says, were strangers, aliens, from the covenants of promise and from the commonwealth and now through that name, that Name was able to draw from darkness, the Gentiles who had sat in darkness and draw them into His marvelous Light. Oh, yes, His Name shall be called JESUS. Beloved, it does not matter what your darkness is today, if you will just breathe that Name of Jesus, call upon that Name of Jesus, that same Name that was able to bring the Gentiles out of darkness and into His marvelous Light, do that marvelous miracle for the Gentiles in common, how much more can He do it for us particularly when we put our trust in Him.

Yes, God gave the Name that was needed, not the Name that was expected. You know, the Jews were expecting an exalted Name. They were looking a name that would lead them into a

kingdom. They were looking for a name that would break the yoke of the Roman Empire upon them. But God gave the Name that was needed. What was that Name for? The very first thing is: To bring man out of darkness into His wonderful Light.

Likewise, in our own lives, it does not matter how much darkness there is through trials, tribulations, testings, and misunderstandings, and complexities of life, that Name will lead us out of darkness into His marvelous Light. So, beloved, God has given us what we need. Not what we expect. Call upon that Name Jesus and you will be resting assured that He will give you what you need, not what you are expecting. And after all, what benefit is it to us to receive something that we do not need. It is that which we need and receive that is going to help us and going to change our lives. Yes, God gave Him a Name which is above every name.

And, then, again, in Matthew, the eighteenth chapter, and verse twenty, we find the wonderful promise:

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them (Matthew 18:20).

So we see this Name brings unity and harmony. And when two or three people are gathered together with Jesus Christ in the midst, then we will have fellowship in Light. Jesus said,

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12).

How beautiful when we can gather together in His Name, in the Name of Jesus, and make mention of that Name and have our fellowship, our communion permeated with the wonderful Light of Jesus Christ, the wonderful Light of Truth, the wonderful Light of Love and Peace and Unity and Harmony. What a blessing! What blissful joy to experience such a beautiful experience in God. And, then, again, beloved, in Mark, the ninth chapter, we find the Word of God saying to us here and promising through Jesus Christ:

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward (Mark 9:41).

So He said, anyone that would give even a small cup of water in His Name would not lose their reward. Why? Because this Name has power to bless. And God had said to Mary, “Thou shalt call His Name JESUS,” what a Name that can bless the smallest to the greatest. Bless even a cup of cold water to where that even a hungry person, mentally, a hungry person, spiritually, a hungry person, emotionally, could drink of a cup of water that is anointed with the Name of Jesus and experience healing and experience restoration and experience satisfaction. Oh, yes, His Name is powerful. It is a Name above every name. God has given Him that Name. And He instructed Mary and Joseph carefully on what to call Him.

So His Name is just marvelous, just wonderful. In Mark, the sixteenth chapter, and verse seventeen, Jesus gave another promise.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; (Mark 16:17).

So this Name JESUS is a Name that makes the devils tremble. It is a Name that is so powerful that it makes the opposing forces of God draw back and bow in humble submissive obedience unto that Name. On many occasions when the devils saw Him, they cried out, “Oh, Jesus of Nazareth, what do we have to do with thee? Do not torment us ahead of our time.” This Name Jesus is a torment to people who are not right with God. This Name Jesus is a torment to devils. So just think, what a tremendous Christmas present He has given us as Christians and ready to give to a sinner.

If you are a sinner today and you do not know Jesus Christ, He is no respecter of persons! He will give you His Name, just like He has given us His Name! And His Name is the greatest Christmas present that you can ever have. When you are lost and undone without Jesus Christ

and without hope in this world and no assurance for peace in eternity, how beautiful, how marvelous, the day that He gives you His Name in salvation!

Yes, Jesus, His Name, is above every name. There is no name like unto that Name. So, let us acknowledge that today. Let us give honour to His Name. Let us not keep the glory unto ourselves as though, beloved, that by our own name, we had done marvelous and wonderful things for God. If anything has been accomplished in your heart, it is because of that Name Jesus Christ. If anything has been accomplished, beloved, in your work, it is because of His Name, not because of our name. No wonder the Apostle Paul said that God had given Him a Name which was above every name, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, both of heaven and in earth. Let us praise Him at this Christmas season for that beautiful gift, that unspeakable gift of His Name.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the Precious Name of Jesus Christ that has lifted us up out of the miry clay of sin and set our feet upon a solid Rock and put praises into our hearts for Thee. LORD God, we thank You for Your precious unspeakable Gift, Thy Son, Thy Holy Son, Jesus Christ. Bless everyone in radio land today. Let the Name of Jesus live anew to them, this day, in Jesus' Precious Name. Amen. Ɔ