

USING JESUS' NAME WISELY
AUGUST 7, 2019

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

One day every knee will bow and tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. But today, that is not the case. The unsaved world uses His Name in vain. The Orthodox Jewish community despises His Holy Name. **ACTS 4:17-18** The Sanhedrin threatened the Apostles with scourging, imprisonment, even death if they continued preaching the Name of Jesus. Nothing has changed.

- Tim Allen wasn't allowed to use Jesus' Name during a Christmas episode of "Home Improvement."
- ABC officials bleeped out "Jesus" on "The View," when a guest said "thank you, Jesus, is all I have to say!"
- Dr. Tony Evans was asked to pray at a city council meeting but was told not to mention Jesus, just say God.

If ever these opponents succeed, the church will be robbed of its power and reduced to the position of the shorn Samson.

COLOSSIANS 3:16-17

All we do is to be done in the Name of Jesus.

- Every miracle was done by Jesus or in His name. **ACTS 4:9-11**
- Salvation is only in the Name of Jesus. **ACTS 4:12**
- Jesus is present when we gather in His Name. **MATTHEW 18:20**
- Good works are to be done in His Name. **MARK 9:41**
- Demons are subject to His Name. **LUKE 10:17**

TWO IMPORTANT USES

1. Commanding something to be done. **JOHN 14:12-14**
 - A. This is not a reference to prayer. Compare **VERSE 13** with **JOHN 16:23-24**.
 - B. In context, Jesus is talking about doing His works by using His Name.
 - C. The Greek word for ask also means call for, request, command. The context determines the word used.
 - D. Examples of commanding: **ACTS 3:6-8, 9:33-34, 16:18**
 - E. Power of attorney: The legal right to transact business for another. **MARK 16:15-18**

2. Petitioning the Father in prayer. **JOHN 16:23-24**
 - A. No where are we told to pray to Jesus or anyone else. All prayer is to be directed to the Father in the Name of Jesus.
 - B. **JOHN 16:26-27** The Father loves us and we can approach His Throne on the merits of Jesus and petition Him for ourselves. **EPHESIANS 2:18**
 - C. **EPHESIANS 3:14-20** He prays to the Father by Christ Jesus.

CONCLUSION: Jesus gave us the right to use His Name to petition the Father and to exercise authority over demons and disease. When we pray the Father does it. When we command, Jesus does it. Our part is to walk in close fellowship with God and be a true worshiper who understands how to use the Name of Jesus properly.