

THE RED LETTER LECTURES

LEARNING TO PRAY FROM THE WORDS OF JESUS

Asking In The Name Of Jesus

- I. **In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. — Jn. 16:23-24**
 - A. ***In that day . . . no longer ask me anything.***
 1. The day after the ascension of Christ to return to His glory in heaven.
See Jn. 17:4-5.
 2. No longer would Jesus physically be with the disciples to answer their questions.
 3. The verb "ask" (*erotao*) means "to ask a question" rather than "to request a favor."³
 - B. ***my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.***
 1. Present your petitions to the Father in the name of Jesus.
 2. This is why we often end our prayers, "In the Name of Jesus." *See Jn. 14:13-14.*
 - C. ***Ask and you will receive . . .***
 1. An Imperative Command. See margin.
 2. What is the promise of this statement?
 3. Based on our study, is this promise conditional? If so, what would the conditions be?

NOTES

Prayer Quote: "Apostasy begins in the closet. No man ever backslid from the life and power of Christianity who continued constant and fervent in private prayer. He who prays without ceasing is likely to rejoice evermore. — Adam Clarke

Jn. 17:4-5: I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

³Expositor's Bible Commentary New Testament.

Jn. 14:13-14: And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Imperative Command

A verb form that expresses action which is to be realized by the exercise of the will of one person upon that of another. (*Summers, Essentials of New Testament Greek, p. 112*). In this case, the expressed will of Jesus upon ours.

NOTES

D. *your joy will be complete.*

1. *Char*, meaning "to rejoice, be exceedingly glad."
2. *Char* is also the root of the Greek word for "grace," *charis*.
3. It is the opposite of sorrow and grief.

E. Paraphrase of Jn. 16:23-24, from *The Message*:

This is what I want you to do: Ask the Father for whatever is in keeping with the things I've revealed to you. Ask in my name, according to my will, and he'll most certainly give it to you. Your joy will be a river overflowing its banks!

II. **In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.** — Jn. 16:26-28

A. *in my name . . .*

1. The authority of Jesus. See Mt. 28:18; Phil. 2:9-11.
2. The phrase "in my name" recurs frequently in our Lord's farewell discourse (Jn. 14:13-14, 26; 16:23-24, 26) and indicates Jesus' sponsorship of His disciples.
3. Our standing with God depends on the merits of Jesus.
4. Because of His finished work we are invited to approach the Father directly with our petitions.

Prayer Quote: "Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?"
— Corrie Ten Boom

Mt. 28:18: All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Me.

Phil. 2:9-11: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

5. Jesus acts as the High Priest before God our Father in our behalf. We have no need of any other. *See Heb. 4:15-16.*

B. ***the Father himself loves you . . .***

1. God has proven His love for His children. *See Jn. 3:16-17.*

C. ***I came from the Father . . . entered the world . . .***

1. Jesus declares His deity.

2. Jesus confirms His Incarnation.

3. Jesus points to His resurrection.

4. Jesus prepares them for His ascension.

D. Paraphrase of Jn. 16:26-28, from *The Message*:

Then you can make your requests directly to him in relation to this life I've revealed to you. I won't continue making requests of the Father on your behalf. I won't need to. Because you've gone out on a limb, committing yourselves to love and trust in me, believing I came directly from the Father, the Father loves you directly. First, I left the Father and arrived in the world; now I leave the world and travel to the Father."

III. The Uniqueness of the Name of Jesus.

A. Love and compassion will be shown in His Name. *See Mt. 18:5; Mk. 9:39-41.*

B. There is authority in His Name. *See Mt. 18:20; Mk. 16:17.*

C. Antichrists will come in His Name. *See Mt. 24:5; Mk. 13:6; Lk. 21:8.*

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Heb. 4:15-16: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Jn. 3:16-17: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Mt. 18:5: And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.

Mt. 18:20: For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.

Mt. 24:5: For many will come in my name, claiming, "I am the Christ," and will deceive many.

- D. Persecution will come to believers because of His Name. *See Lk. 21:12; Jn. 15:20-21.*
- E. We can ask for anything in His Name. *See Jn. 14:13-14, 15:16, 16:23-26.*
- F. The Holy Spirit is sent in His Name. *See Jn. 14:26-27.*
- G. The Gospel will be preached in His Name. *See Lk. 24:47; Jn. 1:12; 2:23.*
- H. Forgiveness is in His Name. *See Acts 10:43; 1 Jn. 2:12*
- I. Salvation is in His Name and in His Name alone. *See Acts 4:12; Jn. 14:6.*
- J. All praise is in His Name. *See Heb. 13:15*

IV. The Origin of the Name of Jesus.

- A. Hoshea was one of the ten spies sent by Moses into the promised land. His name means "salvation. *See Num. 13:3-4,8.*
- B. Moses changed Hoshea's name to Joshua, which means, "Yahweh saves." *See Num. 13:16.*
 - 1. Joshua is the same spelling in Hebrew for Y'shua or Jesus.
 - 2. The name Jesus literally means "Yahweh saves" or "Yahweh the Savior."

V. Questions for further study:

- A. In these two passages the emphasis is asking in the name of Jesus. What does that Name now mean to you?
- B. When Jesus promises a "joy" that is "complete", is that the same to you as happiness? Explain.

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Lk. 21:12: But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name.

Jn. 14:14: You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Jn. 14:26-27: But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Acts 10:43: All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Acts 4:12: Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Heb. 13:15: Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name.

Num. 13:3-4,8: So at the LORD's command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites. ⁴ These are their names: . . . from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun;

Num. 13:16: These are the names of the men Moses sent to explore the land. (Moses gave Hoshea son of Nun the name Joshua.)