

IS THERE ANYTHING IN A NAME?

Acts 4:7-12

by Jack Thompson

Definition: Webster – "The appellation by which a person or thing is known.

1. The world recognizes the something in a name.
 - A. The right name: The banker, The draft board, the FBI, the husband, the fellow you owe. IRS,
 - B. The wrong name: Should not call a denomination by wrong name. Do not call a truthful man a liar, a good man a thief.
2. The apostles knew there was something in a name .
 - A. His name's sake. Matt. 24:9 - Not SATAN'S
 - B. Ye are Christ's. Mark 9:41
 - C. Life in His name. John 20:31
 - D. Blessed by name of Christ. 1 Pet. 4:14
 - E. Suffer as a Christian. 1 Pet. 4:16
3. God affirmed it.
 - A. Salvation is in the name of Jesus. Matt. 1:21
 - B. Acknowledged Jesus at baptism. Matt. 3:17
 - C. Again at the transfiguration. Matt. 17:5
4. Jesus knew it too.
 - A. Called His sheep by name. John 10:3
 - B. Must ask in His name. John 14:13
 - C. Do not receive until we ask in His name. John 16:24
 - D. Must assemble in His name (by His authority). Matt 18:20
 - E. He knew He was the son of God. Luke 22:70
5. The world when it faces judgment will know it too.
 - A. Many will say in that day. Matt, 7:21
 - B. In his name the Gentiles will hope. Matt. 12:21
 - C. In the name of Jesus every knee shall bow. Phil. 2:10
 - D. The name is made through preaching. 1 Cor. 1:21
 - E. God is wiser than the world. 1 Cor. 1:25

Conclusion:

1. Why do you suppose that the religious world wishes to argue that "there is nothing in a name?" – "A Rose by any name smell just as sweet"
2. Do you think that it is possible because they do not find the name of their church or religious organization in the Word of God, and they need to downgrade or belittle the name "CHURCH OF CHRIST"? Rom 16:16
3. In every other venture or discussion, people everywhere accept and believe that there is indeed, "Something in a name."

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4. Thus, the most likely conclusion is that this phrase is used to cause prejudice or doubt in the name that God gave His people.
5. Peter states, "And in none other is there salvation, for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved."
6. Acts 4:12. Each one must confess that name, and obey HIM.