

# **“The Importance of a Name”**

## **Acts 4:11-12**

### Introduction

- I. If there is nothing in a name, then why is there only one name in which is found salvation (Acts 4:11-12; Col. 3:16-17; Matt. 18:20)?
- II. Even today, there is importance in a name (checks, cf. Jezebel, “Spot”).

### Discussion

- I. Names are important: God gave and changed names.
  - A. Gen. 5:1-2 (“Adam”).
  - B. Gen. 16:11 (“Ismael”).
  - C. Gen. 17:19 (“Isaac”).
  - D. Luke 1:13, 60, 63 (“John”).
  - E. Matt. 1:21 (“Jesus”).
  - F. “Abram” to “Abraham”
  - E. “Sarai” to “Sarah”
  - F. “Jacob” to “Israel”
- II. “God's house” was to receive a new name (Isa. 56:3).
  - A. “God's house” today is the church (1 Tim. 3:15).
  - B. The new name was to “better” (Isa. 56:5).
  - C. God was to give the new name (Isa. 62:2).
  - D. The old name would be left behind (Isa. 65:15; 66:22).
- III. What is the new name-“Christian” (Acts 11:26).
  - A. Paul tried to convince Agrippa to be a Christian (Acts 26:28).
  - B. We are to suffer as a Christian, and glory God “in this name” (1 Pet. 4:14-16).
  - C. The name Christian did not come from man, but from God (Eph. 3:14-21).
  - D. The church is “married” to Christ, and thus we wear His name (Rom. 7:4).
- IV. Why else is the name “Christian” so important?
  - A. Allows us to “speak as the Bible speaks” (1 Pet. 4:11; Isa. 8:20).
  - B. We do not have to be divided with human names (1 Cor. 1:10-13; 2 John 9-11; 1 Cor. 14:33).

### Conclusion

- I. It is very apparent that names matter.
- II. Let us carry the name “Christian” in such a way as to glorify God.