

HEALING IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Why would anyone deem it incredulous that God will do signs and wonders by the name of Jesus Christ? The angel, before the birth of Jesus, admonished Joseph to call Him Jesus meaning God saves because He shall deliver His people from their sins. The ministry of Jesus Christ is summed up in 1 John 3:8 that Jesus was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil. Peter, who lived and walked with Him for over three years has this to say about Him in Acts 10:38 "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and power who went about doing good and healing all them that were oppressed by the enemy because God was with Him".

In His name (the name of Jesus Christ) miracles were done right at the beginning by His disciples when He was still alive. The disciples claimed "Lord demons were subjected to us at your name". John and James reported that "Master we saw someone, who is not part of our group, casting out demons in your name".

Why would God now stop doing miracles in the name of Jesus Christ? God sent Him to redeem all that were oppressed of the enemy and why would God stop this work when we need Him now more than ever before? I don't believe God will stop this work because sin is on the increase. Rather it is when sin abounds that the grace of God abounds even the more. Jesus Himself said that "ye I will be with you till the end of the ages" (Matthew 28:20). The name of Jesus is to continue bringing deliverance to the needy till the end of the ages and as Peter said faith in His name shall make everyone whole. Peter said this in response to the first healing that occurred after Jesus' ascension. The cripple at the Beautiful Gate was healed in the name of Jesus Christ and when the Jewish wanted to know how Peter and John could do such a great thing they revealed that it was faith in the name of Jesus Christ that made the crippled well (Acts 3:6-7; Acts 3:16).

We have come to share in this wonderful Name which was given to past generations and was given to a nation other than ours. The power of His name never wanes throughout all generations and the power of His name was not given only to the Nation of Israel but bible declares that "and all that will call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:11-13). Indeed the

power of His name was promised to “outsiders” as well. At the beginning the prophet who dedicated Jesus declared that Jesus will be a light to the gentiles (outsiders). Several places in scriptures it was prophesied that the gentiles who live in darkness shall see a great light at the encounter of Jesus Christ. Church, we all who are not Jewish by descent but had obtained a share in this wonderful name prove that God is good and He is faithful to His promises. Once upon a time we that were called “outsiders” have been given rights as children of God and we have come to share in this wonderful name of Jesus Christ.

As Paul, the apostle to the gentiles, said we are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ because it is the power of God unto salvation unto all who believed, both the Jews and the Gentiles (Romans 1:16). Faith in His name shall make anyone whole. Understanding of the meaning and importance of the Cross shall release the power of God upon anyone. Indeed the name of the Lord Jesus Christ has become a strong tower and the righteous of all nations will run into it and will be safe.

By Pastor John