

## It Isn't In The Book

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by Roy E. Cogdill

Have you ever heard someone say, "There isn't anything in a name," or "One name is as good as another"? Where do you suppose they would be willing to apply such teaching? Surely no one would say "There isn't anything in a name" concerning the family relationship.

Then what about financial matters? Is there anything in the name that is signed to a check? People are sent to prison for signing the wrong name to a check. Manufactured products bear registered trade marks and are given copyrighted trade names which are protected by law. Severe penalties are inflicted for violating these regulations governing the use of trade names in the financial world. If someone else should make a car and put the name Ford on it, would it make any difference?

The Old Testament prophets prophesied that a new name would be given to His people when the "Gentiles see thy righteousness and all kings thy glory" and that New Name was to be named by the mouth of Jehovah (Isaiah 62:2). This prophecy in all its elements was fulfilled and Saul served that mission while preaching Christ in Antioch of Syria. "The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch" (Acts 1:26). For the first time Gentiles and Jews were brought together in Antioch into a common fellowship upon common terms. Thus the new name was given.

Other passages bear witness to the significance of the name to be worn religiously.

Do nothing in any other name but the Lord's (Colossians 3:17).

Glorify God in the name of Christ (1 Peter 4:16).

No other name as good as the name of Christ (Philippians 2:9).

Salvation is in no other name but the name of Christ (Acts 4:11-12).

Human names are condemned. We should wear the name of Him who died for us and into whose name we have been baptized (1 Corinthians 1:10-15).

All these and passages and many others eliminate the name of John The Baptist, Martin Luther, Wesley, Campbell or any other man. These also eliminate calling ourselves after religious ordinances, forms of church government (Methodist, Presbyterian, or Episcopal) or deriving our names from particular doctrines instead of from Christ - (Baptists, Seven Day Adventists, Holiness, Pentecostal).

The doctrine that is so widespread, "One name is just as good as another" just isn't in the Book. The Bible teaches exactly the opposite.

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