

## **Building Christ's Church In His Name**

### **I. The Power, Name and Authority of Christ**

#### A. The miracle and the message:

1. Ac 3:6 - "In the **name** of Jesus ... rise up and walk."
2. Ac 3:12 - "By our own **power** ...?"
  - a. Jesus glorified - 3:13; raised - 3:15.
  - b. "His **name**, through faith in His **name**, has made this man strong" - 3:16.
3. The message: Repent/be converted that your sins be blotted out - 3:19; "sent Him to bless you, in turning away everyone of you from your iniquities" - 3:26.

#### B. The authority questioned:

1. Ac 4:7-9 - "By what **power** or by what **name** ...?" They had previously attributed Jesus' miracles to Beelzebub, but surely Satan wouldn't sanction good deeds.
2. Ac 4:10 - "By **name** of Jesus ... raised from the dead ... by **Him** ...".
3. Ac 4:12 - Salvation in no other **name**.

#### C. Submission to the authority of Jesus:

1. The council feels threatened by the unquestionable authority - Ac 4:16-18: "not to speak at all nor teach in the **name** of Jesus." Men often feel threatened when the authority of God reveals that they stand on the side of error.
2. Refusal to comply - 4:19-20.
3. Prayer for greater courage - 4:29-30: "may be done through the **name** of ...".

### **2. Jesus Is Building His Church**

#### A. "I will build **My** church" - Mt 16:18.

1. Not on Peter's identity or name but Christ's - 16:16-17.
2. "All authority has been given to Me" - Mt 28:18.
3. Jesus then commissions that disciples be made and taught.

B. This begins at the Feast of Pentecost: Ac 2:

1. Begins with the miraculous manifestation of the H.S.
  - a. “Whom the Father will send in My **name**” - Jn 14:26.
  - b. “He will not speak on His own **authority** ... He will take of what is Mine” - Jn 16:13-15.
  - c. Peter says “He (Jesus) has poured out this ...” - Ac 2:33.
2. Jesus had said “the gates of Hades” would not prevail against Him” (Mt 16:18).
  - a. Ac 2:24 - God raised up.
  - b. Ac 2:30-31 - His soul was not left in Hades.
  - c. Ac 2:32 - Eyewitnesses of the resurrection.
3. Foundation for Christ’s authority - Ac 2:34-36: At the right hand of God, made both Lord and Christ.

C. When men and women obey **in the name** of Jesus, they are added to His church:

1. Repent, be baptized **in the name** of Jesus for remission of sin - Ac 2:38.
2. Preached ... **name of Jesus Christ** both men and women baptized - Ac 8:12.
3. Baptized in the **name of the Lord** - Ac 10:48.

### 3. Conclusion

- A. There is only **one** church - Not denomination, organization, congregation but body of saved people. Entrance into that body is by acting **in the name** of Jesus.
- B. There is absolutely no justification for wearing the name of a place or a man besides the name of Jesus. So doing **proves** the group is connected to something other than Christ.
- C. This authority unto salvation is still valid, and it is offered to you.