

Week of May 13-19

## **NO OTHER NAME**

**Scripture Reading:** Read Acts chapter 3

There is a worship song that many churches use in their services. It's by Don Moen and is entitled, "No Other Name." The chorus of the song goes like this:

No other name but the name of Jesus  
No other name but the name of the Lord  
No other name but the name of Jesus  
Is worthy of glory, and worthy of honor  
And worthy of power and all praise!

Acts chapter 3 opens with Peter and John going to the temple to pray. Along the way, they minister to a lame man and he is healed. Imagine the excitement as this 40+ year old lame man jumps to his feet and begins to walk, jump and praise God in the temple following his healing. Naturally, a crowd of onlookers joins in the excitement and Peter and John have a ready-made congregation to whom they can preach the gospel.

The disciples are quick to deflect any glory towards them back to God for the miracle. They know it was not by their power or godliness that healing came. Rather, it was *"By faith in the name of Jesus, this man was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him..."* In chapter 4, when they are confronted by the religious leaders about the healing and their teaching, they reaffirm, *"It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed."* Notice the emphasis by Peter and John; it was in Jesus' name that healing came. They also made it clear to the religious leaders in Acts 4:12, *"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

In biblical times, a name expressed much more than it does for us today. It was not just something that one was called. The name represented everything that person was and stood for. A name change, for example from Simon to Peter, meant a change in character or position. To say that it was by faith in the name of Jesus, therefore, does not imply that Jesus' name is some magical formula that we can use. It means that everything Jesus is we trust him to be: Savior, Healer, Redeemer, Friend, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Shepherd, etc. Peter and John knew Jesus and because of that intimate knowledge of who he is, they trusted he was able to provide the healing for the lame man. It is through his name that we find salvation, healing, deliverance, protection, life and everything else we need to live as children of God. There truly is no other name! So, sing with confidence the chorus above and listen for Peter and John providing a shout out with a hearty AMEN!

**Action Step & Prayer Focus:** Read John 14:13. Do you need salvation today? There is no other name given but Jesus through whom we can know life. Do you need healing, wisdom, strength, etc.? There is no other name given. Pray today in Jesus' name!

**Take-a-way:** *No other name but Jesus is worthy of glory, honor and praise!*