

Theme: God's Name reveals that He is a tower of refuge and protection for His people, while others place their trust in vain imaginations.

I. Intro – Naming Our Children

- A. People have many reasons for naming children
- B. One of our reasons - the name
- C. Explain their names with meanings
- D. This idea strange in America - not other places
- E. The biblical idea of 'name' is rich
- F. We will be learning about God's name in series

II. A Place of Refuge

- A. A place of refuge or safety
 - 1. Same idea in both verses - refuge/safety
 - 2. Tower (v10); city and wall (v11) - same idea
 - 3. "safe" vs 10 and "unscalable" v11 same word
 - a. Basic idea is high/exalted
 - b. Came to mean safe, inaccessible to enemies
- B. Refuge sought in two different sources
 - 1. Rich seek it in wealth
 - 2. This is imaginary refuge - won't last!
 - 3. Righteous - find it in God's name
 - 4. This is a real refuge!

III. The Importance of God's Name

- A. The importance of names in the ancient world
 - 1. Names were virtually equivalent to person
 - 2. Rev 3:4 - names = people
 - 3. Names describes character (1 Sam 25:25)
 - 4. Cut off name = destroy people (Isa 14:22)
 - 5. New name = new status (Gen 17:5; Gen 32:28; [Phil 2:9])
 - 6. New names in heaven (Rev 2:17; 3:12)
 - 7. Summary - names tightly linked to person, character, status
 - 8. This is why man giving names - God's image
- B. God's name = His Being, work, character, revelation
 - 1. Name and Being - Psalm 68:4
 - 2. Name and work, revelation - Isa 52:5-7
- C. What we will learn as we study God's name
 - 1. As we understand His name He reveals Himself
 - 2. We learn His character, work, promises
 - 3. Our faith is strengthened to follow Him

IV. Applying the Word

- A. Where is our refuge in times of trouble?

July 26, 2009
Tom Wohlgemuth water baptism
Psalm 20:1-6

1. Proverbs 18:10-11 different places of refuge
2. Provision - Is God my refuge - or wealth?
3. Health - Is God my refuge - or medicine?
4. Protection - Is God my refuge - or the military?
5. Salvation - Is God my refuge - or my works?

B. How well do we know God

1. We can not trust who we do not know
2. How well do I really know God?
3. Is He just a casual mental acquaintance?
4. Do I deeply know and trust Him?
5. Do I seek and meet Him in all times?

C. Walking in God's name

1. Christians have literally taken God's Name
2. We are called to walk in that Name
3. This calls for trust and obedience
4. Baptism - calling on the Name of the Lord
5. Baptism - taking the Name of the Lord

Finding Refuge in the Name of the Lord

Proverbs 18:10-11
Philippians 2:5-11

Yet you have a few **people** (literally 'names') in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.
Revelation 3:4

May my lord pay no attention to that wicked man Nabal. **He is just like his name--his name is Fool, and folly goes with him.** But as for me, your servant, I did not see the men my master sent.
1 Samuel 25:25

"I will rise up against them," declares the LORD Almighty. **"I will cut off from Babylon her name and survivors, her offspring and descendants,"** declares the LORD.
Isaiah 14:22

No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.
Genesis 17:5

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."
Genesis 32:28

To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. **I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.**
Revelation 2:17

Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. **I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name.**
Revelation 3:12

Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds--**his name is the LORD--** and rejoice before him.
Psalm 68:4

"For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock," declares the LORD. **"And all day long my name is constantly blasphemed. 6 Therefore my people will know my name; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I."** 7 How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
Isaiah 52:5-7