

Jesus says, "... do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you ..."

Don't be excited about the fact that they had this supernatural power to free people who had been enslaved by all sorts of spiritual forces.

Well what's wrong with being excited about that?

Because that's not what they're excited about is it?

They didn't come back saying, "*Wow, Lord! We've helped people.*"

"Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!" vs. 17

Just remember who you really are...that your names are written in heaven."

What does *that* mean?

Simply that the gospel of Jesus Christ is your name is already written down." Past tense, you see that. Your name *is* written.

The gospel is don't exalt in what you do, or have done; cheer, celebrate what you have been given in Me.

...righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:22-24

(Jesus) was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Romans 4:25

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:8-10

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1,2

February 24th, 2019 Dan Wilvers Part 8 (What it means to follow Jesus)



How God's Grace works as our mission, message, and motive.

Luke 10:1-11; 16-20

The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit.² These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.

³ Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves. ⁴ Don't take any money with you, nor a traveler's bag, nor an extra pair of sandals. And don't stop to greet anyone on the road.

⁵ "Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, 'May God's peace be on this house.' ⁶ If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you. ⁷ Don't move around from home to home. Stay in one place, eating and drinking what they provide. Don't hesitate to accept hospitality, because those who work deserve their pay.

⁸ "If you enter a town and it welcomes you, eat whatever is set before you. ⁹ Heal the sick, and tell them, 'The Kingdom of God is near you now.' ¹⁰ But if a town refuses to welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'We wipe even the dust of your town from our feet to show that we have abandoned you to your fate. And know this—the Kingdom of God is near!' ... ¹⁶ "The one who listens to you, listens to me. The one who rejects you, rejects me. And rejecting me is the same as rejecting God, who sent me."

¹⁷ When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!" ¹⁸ "Yes," he told them, "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning! ¹⁹ Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. ²⁰ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

1. We Have A Mission To Go.

"After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go." ...³"Go! I am sending you"
Luke 10:1,3

These 72 were on a mission to proclaim the salvation of God and they are not unlike us. This is our responsibility as well. The only difference is we're not telling people about a Messiah who is coming, we're telling people about a Messiah who has come.

What does that mean? *"I've blessed you to be a blessing.*

⁵"Whenever you enter someone's home, first say, 'May God's peace be on this house.' ⁶If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you.
Luke 10:5,6

Why would it work this way? Because Jesus is saying, *"I have dealt with your sin and your shame. I have provided for your forgiveness, and eternal life. Tell others, it's not just for you."*

For we are God's handiwork, *created in Christ Jesus to do good works*, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

"If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. ²⁴If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.
Luke 9:23,24

2. We Have A Message To Share.

⁹Heal the sick, and tell them, 'The Kingdom of God is near you now.'
Luke 10:9

If those who live there are peaceful, the blessing will stand; if they are not, the blessing will return to you.
Luke 10:6

The one who listens to you, listens to me. The one who rejects you, rejects me. And rejecting me is the same as rejecting God, who sent me."
Luke 10:16

Jesus sends us into the world to communicate the Gospel of eternal life through forgiveness of sin through Him.

When Jesus Christ said, "Go and proclaim the gospel to everyone do you understand the enormity of the request?"

"I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning! Luke 10:18
He's claiming as he does on almost every other page of the New Testament that, *"I was there before the world existed, I am the One who made all of it. I am God."*

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, ¹⁶for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.
Colossians 1:15,16

That's the whole point behind this message going out here in the middle of chapter 10. *"In Jesus Christ the kingdom of God is coming near, and if you reject him, history will leave you behind."*

So to not take that news out to every person would be the most unloving thing possible. It would be like finding the cure for cancer and saying, *"I'm only going to keep it to my family."*

3. We Have A Motivation To Guide Us.

¹⁷When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to him, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name!" ¹⁸"Yes," he told them, "I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning!
Luke 10:17,18

¹⁹Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you. ²⁰However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."
Luke 10:19,20

What is Jesus doing there?

He is saying right motives, are at the heart of my ministry. And right now your motives are corrupted by pride in something you had nothing to do with making it happen.