

The Name the Church Should Wear

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Introduction

1. Isaiah 62:2; 65:15
2. Names are given to identify, but that is not all that identifies a person or institution. All things must be considered before proper identification is made. Your name date of birth
3. We identify the church by the name it wears, let us notice the name carefully

II Discussion

1. Why the names given by men are wrong
 - a. Divisive in character; designates a peculiar party (Baptist, Luther's; Methodist, Presbyterian) antagonistic to spirit of Christ John 17:20-21
 - b. Condemned in New Testament Scriptures 1 Corinthians 1:10-15
 - c. Confusing does God have many churches?
2. What is the God-given name?
 - a. God said He would give a new name Isaiah 62:2; 65:15
 - i. It would not be given until the righteousness of God is seen by the Gentiles Acts 10; 11:26
 - ii. The Gentiles were called by this name Acts 15:17
 - iii. Paul did not correct anyone when called by this name Acts 26:26-29
 - iv. Peter used it of all who were obedient to God's commands and suffering 1 Peter 4:14-16
 - v. It is a worthy name James 2:7
 - b. Names applies to the church
 - i. Church of God 1 Corinthians 1:2
 - ii. Churches of Christ Romans 16:16
 - iii. Different illustrations or metaphors
 1. Kingdom of God Matthew 13
 2. Body of Christ Ephesians 1
 3. House of God 1 Timothy 3:15
 - iv. Names applied to members
 1. Christian Acts 11:26; 1 Peter 4:16
 2. Saints I Corinthians 1:2
 3. Disciples Acts 20:7
 4. Brethren Colossians 1:2
3. Why should only the name given by God be worn?
 - a. The church is the family of God and is to wear His name Ephesians 3:15; 1 Timothy 3:15
 - b. What ever we do is to be done by His authority Colossians 3:17
 - c. It is the only name (one name is as good as another) Philippians 2:9-11
 - d. It is the only name by which we will be saved Acts 4:12

III Conclusion

1. What other name should a follower of Christ want to wear?
2. What name is mentioned in the Bible?
3. What name are you wearing?

Source: New Testament church by Roy Cogdill