



Who Are You?:
The Christian's Nine-Name Identity

Scripture Reading:

Philippians 4:1-8

INTRODUCTION

Personal identification is a necessity for many reasons – social security number for citizen verification passport documents, taxation responsibilities, etc.

Many cultures give multiple names to their children for generational heritage posterity. Hispanic names often include multiple surnames – first names, and “apellidos” – last names.

Jesus was known as “Son Man” and “Son of God”. See his family lineage in Matthew and Luke. No lineage.

NT believers are identified by 9 different descriptions, or names. All are very significant, one of which is “saint”

“Christian” - Only 3x – Acts 11:26, 26:28; I Pet 4:16

“Son of God” - 7x – cf I Jn 3:1-2. We have been “placed as sons” (KJV “adopted”), cf Gal 4:4-5

“Children of God” - 8x – We are children, lit “born-ones” by means of the new birth, i.e. regeneration, cf I Pet 1:23

NINE NAMES OF GRACE-BELIEVER (continued)

“Followers” - 8x lit. “Mimic”, cf I Cor 4:16 of Paul, and cf Eph 5:1 of God

“Disciple” – 30x, used only in Acts. Grk: “math- a- tase” – a learner (Cf Matt 28:19-20) make disciples by evangelizing, THEN “teach them all things”

“Believers” or “Believing Ones” ~ 50x - Emphasized the exercise of faith for salvation on behalf of the individual – Acts 5:14, I Tim 4:12

NINE NAMES OF GRACE-BELIEVER (continued)

“Saints” - 62x - One separated unto God’s person (character) and purpose, “saint” (singular) used Phil 4:21-22

“Brethren” – 150x, Vine’s Commentary, “a community based on identity of origin or life (brother- “delphos” = related to the womb). Cf Phil 4:1-2,8. Rom 12:1 - women believers are included in this term

A “New Name” - given to each believer, cf Rev 2:17 shows person intimacy with Jesus Christ

CONCLUSION

Therefore, we are

- **Christians,**
- **Sons of God,**
- **Children of God,**
- **Mimics of God,**
- **Disciples of God,**
- **Believers** in the gospel,
- **Saints** in Christ, and
- **Brethren** to each other who other with EACH having a
- **New name** awaiting us at the Rapture.

CONCLUSION

- The believer's identity received from God is absolutely essential in our salvation! Through faith in the gospel of Christ anyone qualifies, and will never be told "Depart from me, I never knew you" - Matt 7:23