

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

The Problem: “If I am created for eternity, do I have a say in what that eternity becomes? And if taking on the name of Jesus is a choice of belonging and identity, how does that decision shape not only my life now, but the eternity that follows?”

What God says: I am coming in the flesh

What I do: I take on his name

- Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (**ACTS 2:38**)
- Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, “Look at us.” ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong.
⁸And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. ¹

¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Ac 3:1–10.

¹¹ While he clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹² And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?"² (**ACTS 3:1-12**)

- If death is not the end, then eternity must begin somewhere. But what determines where it leads? And if Jesus stands as the truth that points to the way, what decision must I make now to ensure my eternity is spent with Him and not apart from Him?
- **WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?**

¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. ¹⁷ "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰ that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,"³ (**ACTS 3:13-20**)

What is so special about a name that caused these men to risk their lives and end up dying some of the most brutal deaths you could ever imagine?

A name is more than a calling to identify you.

² [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Ac 3:11–12.

³ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Ac 3:13–20.

Your name represents WHO YOU ARE: Your identity, your worth.

Your name represents WHO YOU BELONG TOO... your name connects you to your family, your history, your purpose.

Your name represents what you are known for... Your name reflects your character and your legacy.

Your first name identifies your personal identity

- Individual identity
- How people personally know and address you
- Your uniqueness

Your last name is your belonging and legacy

It represents your past, your family, your lineage

Your last name connects you to something bigger

- **Ted Turner** – Media pioneer and philanthropist who helped shape global news and conservation efforts.
- **Ted Bundy** – Serial killer whose name became synonymous with deception and violence.

YOUR NAME HOLDS WEIGHT!

There is only one way to know God, and that is to know him relationally,

and so when I speak of God, it is not as if I am speaking about him in the third-person or I am just simply speaking about him, but rather I am speaking because I know Him.

I am speaking TOO HIM!

When two people who approach each other, in order to get to know each other, their names must be exchanged...

When names are exchanged, one can then begin to know the other

God in Exodus reveals his name, a name that is so Holy the Jewish people were scared to utter it!

GOD IS NOT AN IT, HE IS MY FATHER, HE IS MY SAVIOUR

God calls out of a burning bush MOSES, MOSES... but the relationship can't be until Moses gets clarity of who he is talking to...

THEY NEEDED A SAVIOR, and in this moment God was not His name to Moses, but he was revealing his nature to him... I am, which means the Gods of Egypt are not! I AM THAT I AM...

FOLLOW ME: YHWH IS A PRONOUN, derived from a verb that is imperfect TO BE, TO EXIST!

THE NAME I AM IS SPOKEN, IT REVEAL NATURE OF GOD, as I will always be, I will be with you, I WILL BE FOR YOU, I WILL NOT BE AGAINST YOU... I WILL GO BEFORE YOU, I WILL BE BEHIND YOU, I WILL BE WITH YOU! I AM, THAT I AM

YHWH MADE HIMSELF KNOWN TO MOSES but he was gearing to make himself known to the world!

THE "I AM" WAS PREPARING TO WALK ON THIS EARTH as a man because he was pursuing his creation

700 years prior to Jesus birth, Isaiah prophesies and says, " Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his NAME Immanuel- it means God is going to be with us

Philippians ^{2:9} Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ SO AT THE NAME OF JESUS every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

JESUS = YHWH Saves

Jesus walks on this earth and begins to communicate that He is the "I AM" of the Old testament which now make His hold a new weight.

The name of Jesus represents:

1. Character- knowing his name, you know his character
2. Authority
3. Power
4. Manifested glory

YOU GOT TO UNDERSTAND THE MAN CHRIST JESUS who was fully GOD and FULLY MAN...

THE GOD WHO CREATED US, ALLOWED HIMSELF TO HUNGER, TO THIRST TO FEEL PAIN, signed his death warrant when he was having a discussion with Jewish religious leaders.

John 9:56 So the Jews said to him, You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?
58. Jesus said to them, "truly, truly, I say to you before Abraham was, "I AM". So picked up stone to throw at him.

Jesus didn't use that phrase in the past tense, "I was", that IMPERFECT VERB was still moving and breathing now on this earth "I AM", "I AM"

Jesus reveals himself as the I AM to the unsuspecting rejects of the world who no one wanted!

Society considered the Samaritans no better than dogs. These people were Half Jew, Half Gentile; therefore, they belonged to no one....

There was a hatred between the Jews and the Samaritans... the Samaritans corrupted the Jewish faith...

The Jews hated them so much they would take a long way around Samaria just so they didn't have to see them.

Jesus goes through Samaria and comes upon a Samaritan at a well.

This was not just an ordinary Samaritan, a woman who had gone from Man to man, searching for meaning, hope, and answers.

She told that she was broken and was hurting, but she was still searching for a savior, and Jesus looked at her.

John 4:26- Jesus said to, I who speak to you AM HE!

Like GOD speaking to Moses at the burning bush in a covenantal invitation, NOW JESUS is offering a covenant relationship to a crowd of influencers, but to a broken, poor, outcast woman, who can provide nothing for Him.

Jesus said:

- John 6:35: I am the Bread of Life
- John 8:12 I am the Light of the World
- John 10:7 I am the Door
- John 11:25 I am the Resurrection and the Life
- John 14: 6 I am the Way, the Truth , the Life
- John 15:1 I am the True Vine

THERE IS A NAME!!!!

TALK ABOUT ACTS 4

Boldness has come on Peter and John, they get put in prison for speaking the name of Jesus

They are being questioned by the very people who crucified Jesus a couple of months prior- Peter and John watched Jesus get tortured, humiliated, and brutally die on a cross.

The religious leaders one question

Acts 4:7- BY WHAT POWER OR BY WHAT NAME DID YOU DO THIS?

Peter responds- Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said to htem, rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the

dead—by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” ⁴

BAPTISM

In the new testament was an outward sign of an inward conversion, and still today, the reason the bible tells us to get baptized is that it is entering into a covenant walk with the I AM

Jesus provided this example for us, and he was baptized- and when we are baptized, we are aligning and coming into covenant with Him, therefore we follow his example.

Jesus said in Mark 16:16- He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved

Peter said: Repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins,

WHEN CANCER GOES INTO REMISSION

In this case, remission means it cancels a debt owed

What qualifies me to get baptized

When you get baptized, you are identifying with Jesus death, burial, and resurrection

Romans 6:3- Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

We die to ourselves, we are completely immersed (buried), and come out of the water a new person

⁴ [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2025), Ac 4:10–12.

You may have heard that it is a public confession, but it is so much more than that, as far as I can tell. When people in the New Testament got the revelation of who Jesus was, they didn't wait; they got baptized immediately

Acts 8:36- The Ethiopian eunuch did not wait; he was baptized as soon as his faith met Jesus

Acts 16: The Philippian jailer has a revelation of who Jesus is, and around midnight, he was baptized!

Paul rebaptized people in Acts 19

Peter commanded Cornelius and his household to be baptized

They didn't wait

The most important part how they were baptized,

Here at CCC we call on one name when we baptize you