

“For he is a chosen vessel unto Me,
to bear My name before the Gentiles, and kings,
and the children of Israel” (Acts 9:15).

The Christian’s Ministry:

Carrying Christ’s Name

Acts 9:10-16

Paul’s witness is described as “bearing Christ’s name” or carrying Christ’s name. What a privilege to bear and to bring the very name of Christ and the Person that name represents to other people who desperately need to know Him. We do not carry or promote our own name. It’s not about us; it’s all about Him. Paul did not suffer for promoting his own name and his own cause. He suffered because He proclaimed Christ and His good news. “If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf” (1 Pet. 4:16). We who name the name of Christ (2 Tim. 2:19) have the responsibility to carry that name to others. Some time later, at Antioch, believers would be called “Christians,” bearing the very name of Christ (Acts 11:26).

We are identified with His name. How careful we ought to be so that we do not bring shame upon that worthy name by our carnal conduct. A true witness is one who causes others to think about God, to think about the lovely Person of the Lord Jesus. Wherever we go, we are bringing the Lord Jesus with us. We are to point clearly to Him by our words and works. Christ, the Head, is in heaven and the world cannot see Him today, but unsaved people can see the members of His Body as they conduct themselves in the world. We are the only Christ that the world can see.

✿ *“Take the name of Jesus with you,
child of sorrow and of woe—
It will joy and comfort give you,
take it then wherever you go”* ✿
—Lydia Baxter. ✿
~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org ✿

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