

Whatsoever Ye Shall Ask In My Name

Joh 14:13; 11 "Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake. 12 ¶ Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. 15 ¶ If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

What is encompassed in the phrase "**whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do,**"? In biblical context, Jesus is saying to his disciples, the eleven disciples left as Judas has departed on his mission to betray Jesus: believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, and if you have trouble believing that, believe me, and what I am saying, because of the works that you have seen me do. Jesus then goes on to say that if you believe on me, you shall do the works that I do and even greater works than these.

Well, what about "**greater works than these?**" Greater simply means more. Why were the disciples rejoicing? Because the evil spirits were subject to them, in the name of Jesus. Jesus is leaving this world to go back to the eternal heaven and sit upon the throne of God. There was the manifestation of salvation to discipleship to only a few, while Jesus was about his public ministry. Since greater means more, think about how many more have had salvation by the grace of God manifested in their lives, and the evil spirits made subject unto them. This is a far greater number than during the ministry of Christ on earth.

Having made these points of context: we may now consider what is meant by "**whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do.**" First, let us consider what "**whatsoever**" means: *which some, any that, which same, they, whereas ye, they which, whosoever.* As we consider these definitions, we understand that "**whatsoever**" simply means, whosoever of my disciples ask of the Father in my name, that will I do. Whatsoever for us means, any person who is a disciple to Jesus Christ.

We see first that for Jesus to do what we ask in his name, we must first believe that Jesus is the Christ, the very Son of God. Secondly, we see that we must be doing the works of God as these disciples were doing, and as Jesus was doing, as seen in: **Joh 4:34** "*Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*" As everything that Jesus did was to please the Father God; so, it should be in our own lives as disciples of Christ. "**whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do,**" does not include any desires of our inherited sinful flesh nature. Remember, Jesus came to earth in a prepared body, and did not have an inherited sin nature as we all do.

Jesus continues by telling the disciples, "**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**" Wherefore, again, we see that it is not fleshly desires and wants that are encompassed in these prayers. How do we see this? If you are keeping the commandments of God, you are not fulfilling the lust of your inherited sin nature.

Wherefore, we discern that "**whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do,**" simply means that whatever a disciple of Jesus asks, in accordance with the will and purpose of God, for the glory of God's name, and the advancement of the kingdom of God upon the earth, will be answered by God the Father, if asked in the name of Jesus Christ. We would add that this also includes asking with a true intent in your heart, believing that it shall be done as we see in: **Mt 21:22** "*And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.*"

We also find this phrase in: **Joh 16:23; 22** "*And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.* 23 ¶ *And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.* 24 *Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.* 25 *These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father.* 26 *At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:* 27 *For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.* 28 ¶ *I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world:*

again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. 29 His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb."

In context, we see that the disciples of Jesus are sorrowful because Jesus has told them that he is going to leave this world. He also tells them you shall rejoice because you will see me again, and the joy that will be in you no man can take from you.

Then Jesus says: "**And in that day ye shall ask me nothing.**" Jesus is telling them that they will be filled with the Holy Ghost, who will enlighten their understanding, and they will no longer be asking questions, about who he is, or what he is doing, because they will know, beyond any shadow of doubt, who and what he is to them, and to God's people.

Next, he tells them "**Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.**" Whatsoever here has the added definition of **as much, great, long**, which indicates to us that there is no limit, to what the disciple of Jesus can ask in accordance with the will and purpose of God. Why? So, your joy will be full.

Do you remember when Jesus sent the disciples forth and they came back rejoicing that even the devils were subject unto them, seen in: **Lu 10:17-20; 17 ¶ "And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. 18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven."** Why were these seventy so joyful? Because they prayed in the name of Jesus and the very devils were subjected to them in the name of Jesus. We believe that they healed the sick and did many wonderous works in the name of Jesus. However, Jesus told them to not rejoice in the works he was allowing them to do, but rather to rejoice that their names were written in heaven.

In application to our lives of discipleship to Jesus today: We have present joy in our eternal salvation, and in discipleship to Christ, in that even the devils are subject to us through the name of Jesus. Through prayer in the name of Jesus is how we overcome the inherited sin nature of the flesh: it is manifested by the power of the Holy Spirit, which gives us power to keep our inherited sin nature in check. However, our rejoicing should always be that our sins have been eternally remitted through the finished work of Jesus Christ, and that we have been saved eternally by the grace of God.

Jesus told his disciples, not the twelve but the seventy: "**I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.**" This is what we believe of, and why we believe in Jesus Christ today. We believe that Jesus came forth from God the Father into the world, in a prepared body of flesh. We believe that Jesus finished the work of the eternal redemption, of the sins of all of God's people on the cross, gave up his mortality there on the cross, lay in the tomb three days and nights, and arose victorious over death, hell, and the grave, and has ascended back to God the Father from whence he came.

Jesus further promised God's people: **Joh 14:3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."** This then is the fulness of joy in the life of a child of God. This is why the disciples of Christ are to be praying, to God the Father, that all of God's people will be received, into the glory of Jesus Christ in the eternal kingdom of God.

Therefore, remember to ask of God the Father, for the redemption of our bodies in the resurrection of the dead in Christ, which is our hope not yet seen. Jesus resurrecting our bodies, in the resurrection of the dead in Christ, will bring us into the eternal kingdom of God, through the finished work of God the Son. We should be praying for our families, friends, and enemies, that the gift of eternal life might be manifested in their lives to us here on earth, which will make our joy in Christ be full. Then we are asking in accordance with the will and purpose of God, and we are doing it in the name of Jesus, by which means both God the Father and God the Son will obtain glory. After all, the mercy and grace of God is a never ending (unlimited) river of water of life flowing out from the throne of God in the eternal heaven. Hallelujah! Amen!