

THE BEREAN

"...EXAMINING THE SCRIPTURES DAILY..." (Acts 17:11)

THE HONORABLE NAME

*A STUDY OF THE EPISTLE OF JAMES
PART TWENTY FIVE OF SIXTY FOUR*

Have you ever been called a dirty name? Most likely you have, and you probably will be again sometime in your life. It isn't pleasant to have some one speak evil of you. At the same time it is a great joy to be called by a respectful name. When James wrote to children of God he spoke of "the honorable name by which ye are called" (James 2:7).

What name is more worthy or honorable than the name of Jesus? "Wherefore also God highly exalted him, and gave unto him the name which is above every name" (Phil. 2:9). Jesus Christ is above "every name that is named" (Eph. 1:20, 21), "having become by so much better than the angels, as he hath inherited a more excellent name than they" (Heb. 1:4). It is by this honorable name we are called. It is in this name that God keeps us for His own (John 17:11). It is in this name that all things religious are to be done (Col. 3:17).

In the Old Testament, Israel was spoken of as being "called by the name of Jehovah" (Deut. 28:10). The idea is of dedication to the service of God. When one becomes a child of God today he does so by faith in the name (Acts 4:12). When he is baptized into the name of Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), he belongs to Christ (Gal. 3:26,27), and is dedicated to His service (Rom. 6:18). Forever after he should wear the honorable name of Jesus. This name brings honor to all who wear it when enemies of Christ blaspheme that worthy name.

(B. G. Echols)

CHURCH OF CHRIST

412 East King Street
Shippensburg, Pa. 17257