

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Name droppers, we all know them and have even been them at times. “*Oh, I have never done that before*” you may be thinking. But you have, and we all have, even in the New Testament we read of those in the church that have done the very same thing we have done, Name Droppers.

† **1 Corinthians 1:12-13** *Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?*

And don't we do the same thing sometimes, saying that we go to, or have gone to such and such a church, and have heard pastor so and so speak, or was a part of “his” (Yes we say his) church. Once again, we all have done it, and I include myself in that statement.

But have you ever realized that when you are a name dropper, you are attempting to bring glory to man and not to God, because you are pointing to a man and the work or teaching he has done, and not the Lord who is working through that man (or woman). It reminds me of what God said about vessels being lifted up, instead of the user of that vessel being lifted up.

† **Isaiah 10:15** *Shall the ax boast itself against him who chops with it? Or shall the saw exalt itself against him who saws with it? As if a rod could wield itself against those who lift it up, Or as if a staff could lift up, as if it were not wood!*

Or to put in terms of our example of name droppers: Can a great pastor/teacher, God's instrument, speak words on his own, or is he speaking the words that the Lord has given him to speak!

Years ago, I wrote a short piece titled “In Heaven” about a man who died and went to heaven, and if I may, let me give a paragraph from that short story:

I had seen others being brought before Jesus, and in His presence. All those words and questions they thought they would come to Him with, were all answered in a moment, and they realized that truly Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords, so all they could do was bow their knee to Him. No questions and no excuses for the way they had lived their life. Those who had such a huge name for themselves on the earth and yet I could not remember their names here, nor what they were famous for, yet they had rejected Jesus

and were now confronted with the one they mocked and made fun of. Even though they were so famous here on the earth, for a short time, Jesus just said, "Depart from me, I never knew you."

My wife and I went to dinner with another couple, and the husband spent most of the dinner bragging about his accomplishments, and as a musician, all those he had played with in different churches. Every single name he dropped (mentioned), my wife and I had no idea who those people were, because we never heard of them. And how many times have you ever name dropped, say a pastor you know or heard speaking and the other person is looking at you like a deer with it's eyes starring into headlights of an oncoming car, simply because they have no idea who that pastor/teacher is. Yet we even question them saying, "*What you never heard of _____?*" thinking how can they be a Christian and not know this most famous person (That's our pride talking). Just like Paul asked, "***Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?***" except change the name of Paul to the person(s) that you think is all that and who's name you are dropping trying to impress others.

Some things to think about when you start name dropping. But if you must drop a name, may it be the name of Jesus Christ and His alone!

† ***Galatians 6:14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.***

† ***Acts 13:38 (NLT2) Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins.***