

FA17. Praying to God in Yeshua's Name.

We are to pray to God in Yeshua's name.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

John 16:23-27

When that day comes, you won't ask anything of me! Yes, indeed! I tell you that whatever you ask from the Father, he will give you in my name. Till now you haven't asked for anything in my name. Keep asking, and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. I have said these things to you with the help of illustrations; however, a time is coming when I will no longer speak indirectly but will talk about the Father in plain language. When that day comes, you will ask in my name. I am not telling you that I will pray to the Father on your behalf, for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

Additional New Testament Scriptures

Matthew 6:9, 18:20

John 10:25, 12:13, 14:13-31, 16:23-26

Acts 3:6-12

Colossians 3:17

Related New Testament Mitzvot

TA08 Calling on Yeshua's Name for Salvation

GB16 Doing Everything in the Name of Yeshua

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Exodus 20:21

For me you need make only an altar of earth; on it you will sacrifice your burnt offerings, peace offerings, sheep, goats and cattle. In every place where I cause my name to be mentioned, I will come to you and bless you.

Exodus 33:19

He replied, "I will cause all my goodness to pass before you, and in your presence I will pronounce the name of ADONAI. Moreover, I show favor to whomever I will, and I display mercy to whomever I will."

Exodus 34:5

ADONAI descended in the cloud, stood with him there and pronounced the name of ADONAI.

Deuteronomy 10:8

At that time ADONAI set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark for the covenant of ADONAI and to stand before ADONAI to serve him and to bless in his name, as they still do today.

Deuteronomy 18:19

Whoever doesn't listen to my words, which he will speak in my name, will have to account for himself to me.

Deuteronomy 18:22

Whoever doesn't listen to my words, which he will speak in my name, will have to account for himself to me.

Deuteronomy 21:5

Then the cohanim, who are L'vi'im, are to approach; for ADONAI your God has chosen them to serve him and to pronounce blessings in the name of ADONAI; they will decide the outcome of every dispute and matter involving violence.

Psalms 118:26

Blessed is he who comes in the name of ADONAI. We bless you from the house of ADONAI.

Comment

Communicating or acting in the name of another means that the speaker or actor (the agent) has full power and authority of the other (the principal) to represent him. So much so that any authorized promise or act committed by an agent legally binds his principal as thoroughly as though the principal himself made the promise or committed the act. A person does not become an agent merely by declaring it; he must be given the agency by his principal.

John 16:23-27 is about an agency that Yeshua said would come into existence upon his leaving the earth and returning to his father in heaven. Yeshua reminded his disciples that previously when they wanted something from God they had to ask Yeshua to pray on their behalf or ask Yeshua directly. They could not pray to God in Yeshua's name, nor receive in his name, because the authority that was vested in Yeshua had not yet been made available to them. But that was about to change through the Holy Spirit whom Yeshua would send to earth to indwell all who would receive him as Lord and savior. The disciples would no longer have to ask Yeshua to pray for them because, through the agency given them by the Holy Spirit, they would be able to both pray and receive in Yeshua's name, and thereby draw closer to God than ever before.

The importance to us today is that we who are Yeshua's disciples are his present-day agents and are therefore able to pray and receive in his name as he predicted would happen. It is important, however, to keep in mind that praying in the name of Yeshua does not mean tacking "in Yeshua's name" at the end of our prayers; its real meaning is addressing God with the authority of agency given us by Yeshua.

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

A06 Using God's Name Lightly or Falsely

W04 Testing Everything that is Spoken in God's Name