

Step Up!

Our lives can be overwhelmed with trials and uncertainties. Have you ever been there? In the Psalms, many times, David cried out to the Lord, "Save me, Lord! And punish those who are persecuting me!" Throughout the Word of God this message can be found. Jeremiah cried out to the Lord,

"Lord, you know what's happening to me. Please step in and help me. Punish my persecutors! Please give me time; don't let me die young. It's for your sake that I am suffering. When I discovered your word, I devoured them. They are my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty".

Jeremiah 15:15-16 NLT

All the men and women of faith in their journey of faith before God made the same cry: "Save me, Lord! But punish those who are persecuting me!"

Somehow we feel it is God's obligation to protect us, in spite of our disobedience. And, in like manner, it is God's obligation to punish any one that we feel may be responsible for our situation. It can't be my fault! This circumstance that is overwhelming me must be caused by someone else who is trying to persecute me! It's their fault, so Lord, punish them! Did not the disciples of Jesus react this way? But something occurred in the hearts of the disciples after resurrection. Something occurred in their hearts after Pentecost. You see, when the Holy Spirit comes, everything changes! Our perspective is changed. Yes, we receive God's victory. Yes, God is our Provider. Yes, God is our Defender. But now, we walk contrary to the world's system. When the Holy Spirit comes upon us, He gives us His Name.

Have you considered what it means to **BEAR THE NAME OF JESUS?** He bore all your sins, your burdens for you and He is asking you to step up and bear His Name with honor and dignity. We have been called to bear His likeness in all areas of our lives. Lord, I want to be like You! But, Lord do I have to bear Your reproach and suffering as well? Yes, of course! Step up and let the Lord empower you and strengthen you to bear this wonderful name! Lord, Your name is higher than the highest mountain.

Randy Bach
©2014