

God's Covenant People

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Covenant Christians

After learning that the Lord intends to accomplish His work through our group, or at least a remnant that includes some from our group, I was then told that the Lord has given us a name. When the Lord names His people He then commits to work with them, for there is no reason for Him to name what He intends to abandon. Even if the people reject Him, for at least three and four generations the Lord will reach out to recover them. Only when they have altogether gone too far astray will He then end His work with the people He has named, to choose and work with another people. Therefore, the fact He has now named us holds great significance. This is what the Lord has declared:

This is what you shall say to the people: “I give to you a name to distinguish you from others, and you shall call one another by this name: ‘Covenant Christians’ because you have and hold a covenant with me that make you my followers deserving of my protection. But my protection does not only defend, but also corrects, reproveth, disciplines and guides you along that you may be mine indeed.”

It is noteworthy that the name given to us by the Lord associates us with the larger Christian world rather than the much smaller “Mormon” world. Disassociating us from the Mormon world needs to happen because the two largest denominations are no longer true to the foundation. Between the abominable creeds adopted by the LDS church, and in turn, by its many daughters, and the Community of Christ’s declining regard for the Book of Mormon, they have both abandoned the original restoration.¹¹ That suggests to my mind that the people who will ultimately be “gathered unto [Zion] out of every nation under heaven, and ... shall be the only people that shall not be at war one with another”¹² will include other faithful people recognized by the Lord. People who can live in peace with one another, without rancor or jealousy, fear and defensiveness will undoubtedly exclude some of us and include some outside this present body of believers.

That concludes the talk I was required to present. But I have a few comments to add:

First, I would propose that the following language be approved by your vote to be added as a section to the *Teachings and Commandments*:

This is what you shall say to the people: “I give to you a name to distinguish you from others, and you shall call one another by this name: ‘Covenant Christians’ because you have and hold a covenant with me that make you my followers deserving of my protection. But my protection does not only defend, but also corrects, reproveth, disciplines and guides you along that you may be mine indeed.

If you are in favor of adding that language, please stand and say “Yes”—thank you, please be seated.

If you are opposed to adding that language, please stand and say “No”—thank you, please be seated.

From – Names of God – Glossary – Names serve not only as identification but as identity. Aspects and attributes of identity are often emphasized by the name itself. “Names are for identification, but they are more than that. Why is it necessary that all be done *in the name of the Son*...? Like the other elements of ordinance, it is a means of communication.”¹ “To receive a new name is to receive a new role or persona, to be identified with a particular situation or association.”²