

**“NO OTHER NAME”
LUKE’S RECENTRALIZATION
OF THE CULT OF ISRAEL**

Part 6 (Conclusion and Bibliography)

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CONCLUSION

**“No Other Name”
Luke’s Recentralization of the Cult of Israel**

Luke’s reaffirmation of Israel’s messianic hope and redeployment of the name “LORD” in the hymnic praise and prophecy of his *prooimia* sets Jesus at center-stage of Luke’s two-volume continuation and fulfillment of Israel’s sacred history. Through his characterization of Jesus as “the one who comes in the name of the LORD,” even “David’s LORD,” Luke offers a compelling *apologia* for the fulfillment of the LORD’s oaths to Abraham, Moses and David. Those oaths, cast in their original covenantal context promise “blessing” for the authentic, whole-hearted worship in “the place where the LORD shall choose to cause his name to dwell” (Deut. 12:11), and they promise “curses” for “thrusting aside” the prophetic word.

By receiving Jesus (the messianic prophet like Moses) and his disciples (Israel’s elder apprentices), “myriads” receive “release” from their sins, diseases and demons through “Jesus’ name.” By rejecting Jesus and his witnesses, Israel’s acting leaders disqualify themselves from the seats of honor they have illegitimately held around the banquet table. As a result, they will be thrown out at the coming of the Son of Man.

God reverses the slander and blasphemy of the Sanhedrin to “lift up” Jesus from death and to “exalt him” to the right hand of power, making him both Christ and LORD! From there, Jesus sends his Spirit, name and word through his “witnesses” to call Israel *first* to repentance and forgiveness by his name, and to worship “no other name.” The apostles’ teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers form a re-mobilized cult in the synagogues, from house to house, and in the temple which is recentralized around the name of Jesus! The restoring people of God, a saving remnant in Israel, is gathered by the prophetic preaching of the name-bearers to restore David’s fallen tent as a light to the nations so that “all the Gentiles who are called by the name might seek the LORD!”

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