

are you a closet christian

"but whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." matt 10:33

are you still a closet christian while others are having "coming out parties," unashamedly announcing their proclivities? do you think Jesus is pleased that you feel comfortable saying "God," but shy away from saying the name "Jesus."

i know there are many christians in that category because i used to be one. i remember a time years ago when my faith was freshly renewed and i was steadily going back to church. my mother, grandmother and uncle were all having lunch together. i no longer recall the occasion why. anyway, i had recently led my mother to the Lord and she was so proud of me. on our way over she said, "i think i'm going to ask you to pray over the meal."

i can't tell you the panic that encompassed me as i, almost angrily, insisted the man was supposed to say the prayer while the truth was that i was too afraid to be praying out loud. i still had not done any praying in public. and so, my uncle was asked to say the blessing, and the truth be told... i'm not sure he even knew Jesus.

i am no longer ashamed to say that most precious name. Jesus is my Savior, my Lord and my life. but what about you? are you still keeping Him safely tucked in the closet? our Father is gracious and loving, but we all must believe in our hearts and confess with our

month. i don't mean anyone has to be arrogant or insolent about it, but esteem it with the honor due it - unashamedly admitting Jesus is the be-all and end-all to everything.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
there's just something about that name
Master, Savior, Jesus
like the fragrance after the rain

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus
let all Heaven and earth proclaim
kings and kingdoms will all pass away
but there's something about that name

my old friend and mentor used to say, "if you don't pray 'in the name of Jesus,' then the prayer just sits there because that's where all the power and authority is, in the name of Jesus. why do you think the devil tries to keep that name from being spoken? because there is power in that name; power to save, power to heal, power to deliver. "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." phil 2:10

someday that will happen. all will bend knee and admit He is Lord of all. then you will be joyful you knew His name, you said His name, you shared His name whenever you could. that name is even now upholding all things by the word of His power. "let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." heb 4;16
how do we come - in the name of JESUS!