

Song Story # 4 – No Higher Name

One of the great ironies that resulted from the 911 terrorist attacks was how suddenly, Islam was being carefully portrayed in the media in a very positive light and converts to Islam in the United States were actually increasing. I never would have imagined that such a thing would have taken place in this country – since the terrorists were committing these atrocities (and so many before and since) in the name of Islam. But I guess that's modern day USA... But anyway, after 911, I just noticed more and more people in the media talking about how there are many paths to God and that Allah is just another name for the God of the Bible. And while that was happening, more and more press seemed to be given to denigrating and minimizing the Jesus of the Bible – always with some supposed new revelation as to how He didn't actually say what the Bible said He did, and how His followers made up the stories about His miracles and His divinity and how He and Mary Magdalene had a thing going on between them. When I hear things like that, something rises up in me that makes me want to really worship (which means "To ascribe worth to, to bow down to, to give homage to") Jesus and give Him the true glory that is due His name. So I wrote this song (and the song "There is No God but the LORD God" at about the same period of time) for that purpose. It would seem so comfortable in our culture to make Jesus a great teacher and great example like Ghandi, or another prophet like Mohammed or another seeker like the Buddha or one of the thousands of mini-gods that are found in Hinduism. But Jesus is so much more than that. Plus, He made so many exclusive statements about Himself, His Deity and His role in the salvation of humankind that can't be separated from the rest of His teachings. He wasn't just another historical mistreated and murdered nice guy. He came for the *purpose* of dying a substitutionary death on our behalf and to rise again victorious so that we too would rise with Him and be spared from the just wrath of God. He's the Lamb of God who bore the punishment for our sin. He's the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. In Him dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily. All authority in Heaven and Earth is given to Him. He is the Creator. He is Way, the Truth and the Life...I could go on and on. But I wrote this song to make a strong declaration of worship of Jesus in light of what is being said of Him in the world around us. My hope in writing this song for congregational worship, is to also serve the purpose of teaching and realigning those who sing this song, as they sing it, about the supremacy of Christ as this song is used in worship.

Musically, I was inspired by Carlos Santana's song "Smooth" and George Parrish did a great job of emulating his electric guitar style in George's own unique way. It was fun to let Peter Shu, our Chinese keyboard player cut loose along with Alexis Santos on percussion and Brad Anderson on trumpet at the end of this song. Ed Adorno and Eunice Bravo sang the Spanish section and I got to do the AM radio eq'd bridge on this song. This is still one of my favorite songs to play live.

You can click on this link to hear this song and see a slideshow of it on Youtube. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyEDRniNzIM> This song is recorded both on our Heart of the City "It All Belongs to You" CD. If you don't have this CD already, you can order it from us by emailing us at dadler@heartofthecity.org or you can download just this song on Itunes, CDBaby.com and many other mp3 sites.

No Higher Name

Words and Music by Dan Adler

1. He's our friend and He is our brother
He's the One who loves like no other
He's the groom and we are the Bride
And for us He suffered and died

He's the Way that gives us direction
He's the Life and the Resurrection
He's the Truth exposing the lies
And His Word has opened our eyes

CHORUS: Jesus! How we love Him!
Jesus! No one above Him!
Jesus! We lift a song of praises unto the Name
Of Jesus! We adore Him!
Jesus! No one before Him!
Jesus! The Lamb of God who bore our sin and shame!
There is no higher name!

(SPANISH)

1. Es mi amigo y mi hermano
El me ama como no hay otro
Somos la novia y el novio
Por nosotros sufrio y murio

El es camino nos da dirección
El es la vida y la resurrección
El es fiel nos da la verdad
Su Palabra nos guiara

CHORUS: Jesus! Como to amamos
Jesus! Es soberano
Jesus! Levantamos alabanzas a ti

O Jesus! Te adoramos
Jesus! No hay otro como
Jesus! El Cordero, cargo mis pecados por mi! No hay otro nombre!

Rap:
More than a prophet or a really good man
More than a guru from a mystic land
He's the King of Kings! He's the Lord of all!
And he saved my soul when He heard me call!

You see, I couldn't get good enough to earn my way
I had a great debt that I had to pay
But He paid for all my sin when He took my place
On a Cross of love with His amazing grace!

And there's no one that's higher! (No higher Name!)
No one that's greater! (No higher Name!)
No one that's stronger! (No higher Name!)
There's no other Savior! (No higher Name!)

CHORUS: Jesus! How we love Him!
Jesus! No one above Him!
Jesus! We lift a song of praises unto the Name
Of Jesus! We adore Him!
Jesus! No one before Him!
Jesus! The Lamb of God who bore our sin and shame!
There is no higher name!
No Higher Name! No Higher Name! (repeat)
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