



## Lesson #18: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment

One of God's most beautiful gifts to mankind is the gift of \_\_\_\_\_. Our ability to speak is one of the many things that distinguishes us from animals. But as is true with every good gift from our Creator, sin has found a way to abuse it and misuse it. We lie, gossip, falsely accuse, and commit all manner of atrocities with our tongues. But there is a sin committed with the tongue that is far worse than any other we could put in a list. The greatest sin any of us can commit with our tongue is using God's name in \_\_\_\_\_!

God's name is sacred and holy. At the mere mention of His name angels bow, demons tremble, and Satan flees. The 3<sup>rd</sup> of the 10 commandments informs us that we should be very careful about the use and misuse of God's name. The Psalmist writes and says, "O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy \_\_\_\_\_ in all the earth" (Psalm 8:1). It's vitally important for all of us to realize that God's name must be treated with the \_\_\_\_\_ it deserves.

### THERE IS NOTHING MORE \_\_\_\_\_ THAN THE NAME OF GOD

God's name is often misused and misspoken because it is misunderstood and not appreciated as it should be.

#### A. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's name speaks of its value

Together, we have studied 17 different names of God. The Bible actually records for us \_\_\_\_\_ names of God. Why do you think there are so many? The answer is because it is impossible to capture the full \_\_\_\_\_ of God in any one attempt. In truth, God has chosen to reveal Himself to us through His many names. His names are important because they signify His character, His reputation, and His authority. And this is why God commands us to His name properly.

#### B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's name speaks of its value

The 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment is seen in the very first portion of the Lord's Prayer. "Our Father which art in heaven, \_\_\_\_\_ be thy name" (Matthew 6:9). This commandment is about treating the name of the Lord, the person of the Lord, the reputation of the Lord as it is, and that is \_\_\_\_\_. Charles Ryrie adds, "Why we pray, 'Hallowed be your name' as part of the Lord's Prayer, we are praying that people would speak about God in a way that is \_\_\_\_\_ to Him and that accurately reflects His character."

### THERE IS NOTHING MORE \_\_\_\_\_ THAN THE NAME OF GOD

The 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment not only tells us about the importance of God's name, it tells us about the misuse of God's name.

A. **We have violated God's name when we use it \_\_\_\_\_**  
Webster's dictionary defines profanity as to violate or treat with \_\_\_\_\_ or contempt something regarded as sacred. When we curse we reveal three things about ourselves.

1. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_
2. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_
3. Lack of \_\_\_\_\_

B. **We have violated God's name when we use it \_\_\_\_\_**

At first glance the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment might look like its just banning profanity but a careful study reveals that there is much more at stake. God's name represents his character and nature. Never are any of His names to be uttered or treated \_\_\_\_\_.

C. **We have violated God's name when we use it \_\_\_\_\_**

Another way to violate God's name is to use it to \_\_\_\_\_. Sadly, some people use God's name to try and look more spiritual. Don't become spiritual "show-offs" by employing spiritual sounding phrases and words while their heart is not in it.

### THERE IS NOTHING MORE \_\_\_\_\_ THAN THE NAME OF GOD

God commands that we respect his name and will not tolerate it when we don't!

A. **There will be \_\_\_\_\_ for the violator**

What are the consequences for misusing God's name? Simply put: God's \_\_\_\_\_. Exodus 20:7 says "the Lord will not hold him \_\_\_\_\_ that talked his name in vain." Those who empty God's name of honor and meaning will not have their slates emptied or be cleaned.

B. **There will be \_\_\_\_\_ for the true follower**

The names of God should give Christians tremendous \_\_\_\_\_ because they do in fact reveal God's nature and character. Proverbs 18:10 says, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are \_\_\_\_\_." The person who understands God's name will have a tremendous source of strength during times of great trials.

### Concluding Thoughts

On Palm Sunday, 2000 years ago a group of people took the name of God in vain. They cried out "Hosana" and said Jesus was "King." They sang His praises and waved palm branches. But five days later they shouted, "\_\_\_\_\_ Him!" They took His name in vain! Our Lord grant that when we say, "All hail the power of Jesus name" that we really \_\_\_\_\_ it!