

3rd Commandment: "Honor the Name"

One of 1st DUTIES of Parents > NAME CHILD > Humans Do Not Name Selves
 22 yrs ago Today > Nathan Kaponoo Lee Blair > born July 9, 1984 >
 Nathan – OT Prophet, 'Gift' / Kaponoo – Hawaiian for Righteousness, Richard
 Lee – 1st Grandchild on Dayna's Family > Name BIGGER than him – 1.7 kilos!

Carried out of Small Maternity Room in Kuluva Hospital of Arua, Uganda
 Crowd of African Friends Gathered > Excitement > 1st Foreign Baby Born in Yrs
 Just at End of Reign of Idi Amin > Still land of CHAOS and UNCERTAINTY
 I Enthusiastically Announced his NAME to Crowd > As I carried him back Home
 NAME ALREADY!? Cultural Mistake > Tribe Waited to Name, Never at Birth!

UNIQUENESS of God > No One NAMED HIM > He NAMED HIMSELF!

1. Meaning of God's Name 2. Misuse of God's Name 3. Magnificent Name

1. Meaning of God's Name

a. Identity – HUMAN NAMES often Mere LABELS / Convenient or Clever

Name 'Nathan' – British Woman at Guest House in Kampala – Dayna Pregnant
 Friend in UK recently Named Son 'Nathan' KEW > WORRIED 'no thank you!'
 Name NATHAN > Fresh in Mind > Teaching OT in Anglican Theolog College
 VALIANT Prophet of GOD > Served Faithfully > Daring to Confront King David

GOD'S Name MORE DIRECTLY LINKED to Himself than HUMAN NAMES
 We Name in HOPE > God Already KNOWS SELF FULLY! He CANNOT LIE!
 God's Name > PART of Him > INWARD IDENTITY > His REPUTATION

O LORD, our Lord, *how majestic is your name* in all the earth! Psalm 8.1

GOD met MOSES in BURNING BUSH in Sinai Desert

"So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." But Moses said to God... "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM... 'I AM has sent me to you...' The LORD, the God of your fathers--the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob--has sent me to you.' *This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered* from generation to generation. Exodus 3.10-15

MANY Names of God in BIBLE > Revelation of CHARACTER, GREATNESS
 'I AM' > UNUSUAL > What MOSES NEEDED to KNOW to Serve Confidently

Moses CIRCUMSTANCES Changed > Pampered by Pharaoh > Laborer in Desert
 LIFE is UNCERTAIN, CHANGING > Can I Trust YOU GOD? Long Walk Back!
 Will YOU Be WITH ME Back in GOSHEN? > Disappointed, Outcast AGAIN?

I am that I am > NEVER CHANGES, No Beginning or End, Alpha and Omega
 Trust ME in Harsh Desert and HALLS of Pharaoh > GOD IS TRUE to WORD
 God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob – Moses – from Generation to Generation

YHWH – Tetragrammaton > Self-Existent, Self-Sufficient, Supreme Sovereign

Hebrew culture NAMES MEANT SOMETHING // Not just CUTE TAGS
 Ex. Elijah "my God is Yahweh" Josiah "The Lord Strengthens"

MANY NAMES OF GOD - "Elohim" God the Creator
 "El Elyon" God the Most High / "Yahweh Jireh" God who Provides / + + + +

Let them praise your *great and awesome name* -- he is holy. Psalm 99.3

NEW TESTAMENT – NAME OF THE LORD IDENTIFIED AS JESUS -
 The Son is the radiance of God's glory... he became as much superior to the angels
 as *the name he has inherited is superior* to theirs. Hebrews 1.3-4

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted Psalm 148.13

b. Authority > IMPORTANCE of God's Name

Ascribe to the LORD the *glory due his name* Psalm 29.2

My Name had AUTHORITY Once > DIRECTOR of Seminary for 4 Years
 IMPORTANT NAME > Mark Blair > Russian, Kazakh, English, Korean
 MARK BLAIR says DO IT! > You BETTER DO IT NOW!
 ONE Worker who Never Saw MY Face Gave Me a Mark Blair COMMAND!

One way...to begin to understand this commandment is to treat God's name as a
 trademarked property. In order to gain widespread distribution for His copyrighted
 repair manual – the Bible – and also to capture greater market share for His
 authorized franchise – the Church – God has graciously licensed the use of His

name to anyone who will use it according to His written instructions. It needs to be understood, however, that God's name has not been released into the public domain. God retains legal control over His name and threatens serious penalties against the unauthorized misuse of this supremely valuable property. Gary North

Theological CLARITY > Vital to KNOW TRUE Name > Counterfeits Abound

If someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough. 2 Corinthians 11.3-4

There is DIFFERENT JESUS, SPIRIT, GOSPEL > Do you KNOW Difference?

PALM SUNDAY Crowds RIGHTLY UNDERSTOOD WHO Rode Donkey
"Blessed is the *king who comes in the name of the Lord!*" Luke 19.38

I will do whatever you ask *in my name*, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything *in my name*, and I will do it. John 14.13-14

Jesus NOT Promising to SIGN all OUR CHECKS > ENDORSE All our Plans
NAME = Authority, Rule > 'in his name' > According to HIS PLAN & PURPOSE

God did extraordinary miracles through Paul...Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, "*In the name of Jesus*, whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out."... the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?" Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding. When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and *the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor.* Acts 19.11-17

When GOD'S NAME is HIGH and HOLY > God's KINGDOM ADVANCES

Salvation is found in no one else, for *there is no other name* under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. Acts 4.12

c. Presence > Where God's NAME is, There HE IS

WORDS SPOKEN from SINAI to Covenant People gathered at MOUNTAIN

Make an altar of earth for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings... *Wherever I cause my name to be honored, I will come to you and bless you.* Exodus 20.24

GENERAL PROMISE > Inherit LAND // DETAILS > Gradually UNFOLDED
1st Place of WORSHIP > MOBILE = Tabernacle, Tent of Glory / FIXED = Temple
Place of Worship > Location of GOD'S NAME

You are to seek the place the LORD your God will choose from among all your tribes to *put his Name there for his dwelling*...bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices...*There, in the presence of the LORD your God* Deuteronomy 12.5-7

PEPSI Generation > Entering Promised Land > MORE DETAILS > 2nd LAW
Worship ONLY Where GOD PUTS HIS NAME = God's NAME is His Presence

SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS LATER GOD SAID....

David my servant may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the *city where I chose to put my Name.* 1 Kings 11.36

Almost EMBARRASSING Intimacy with GOD > HONEYMOON with GOD
ONE of Few ISRAELITES that GOT IT was MOSES – UNIQUE LOVE for God

Moses said, "Now show me your glory." And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and *I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence*...But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live" ...Then the LORD *came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD.* And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin" Exodus 33.14-20, 34.5-6

NAME of God > As CLOSE to SEEING FACE of GOD in THIS LIFE - Presence

NO WONDER Moses was INVITED to Mount of Jesus TRANSFIGURATION
Saw in JESUS > Face of God > Compassionate, Gracious, Abounding in Love

Jesus: For where two or three come together *in my name, there am I* with them.
Matthew 18.20

LAST WORDS of Ezekiel's Prophecy

"And the name of the city from that time on will be: THE LORD IS THERE."
Ezekiel 48.35

2. Misuse of God's Name

2nd Comm > Idolatry > VISUAL Misrepresentation of God
 3rd Comm > Misusing God's Name > VERBAL Misrepresentation of God

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God Exodus 20.7

Using Name "IN VAIN" = "unreal" EMPTY, FRIVOLOUS, INSINCERE
 MISUSE = lit. 'LIFT UP' // Raising Hand to Swear an Oath or INCANTATION

Misuse EITHER 1) to INSULT God or 2) To be INDIFFERENT about Him

a. Personal > Commandments NOT just RULES, Protect RELATIONSHIP

NOT JUST ANYONE > THE Lord YOUR God > God Says: 'This is about US!'
 CURSING GOD, JESUS > Trouncing Name of BEST FRIEND > Lover, Lord

KNOWLEDGE of God > MORE INTIMATE > Greater Revelation
 God said to Moses, "I am the LORD. I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them."
 Exodus 6.2-3

NEW DEPTH of RELATIONSHIP > Saved thru Red Sea > Sanctified at Sinai
 Spent ONE YEAR at Foot of Mt. Sinai > HONEYMOON – God and His Bride

God REVEALING HIMSELF to BELOVED > Intimacy of HIS NAME

The goal of this command is that the Lord will have the majesty of His name held inviolably sacred by us. Whatever we think of Him and whatever we say of Him should savor of His excellency, correspond to the sacredness of His name, and tend to the exaltation of His magnificence.
 John Calvin

ONLY 2 Good REASONS to use Name of God: 1) Glorify Him 2) Edify Others

Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Colossians 3.17

MORAL POUNDING > Modern Films > CALLOUS, Meaningless, Cursing
 Limited Vocabulary – & INTELLIGENCE? – Film Stars, Script Writers, Viewers!
 Preacher Rob Schenk >> Riding Home on Airplane, Tired, Wanted to Sleep

2 Men Seated Behind > Constant Swearing > Cursing God's Name

Schenk > Stood Up, Leaned Over, asked, 'Hey, are you guys in the Ministry?'

Guy > What in the (blankity-blank) would you ask that for??

Schenk > Well I am a Preacher, and I am AMAZED at your Communication Skills

One Sentence: God, damn, hell, and Jesus Christ / Takes Me WHOLE SERMON!

REST of the FLIGHT > Men were SILENT

MISUSING God's Name > Blatant, Open Defiance against GOD

Teenager SECRETLY SMOKING Against Parent's Wishes > NEW BOLDNESS

Defiantly LIGHTS UP Before Parents > Big Puff > You Don't Scare me Anymore!

I'm in CHARGE HERE! I am NOW my OWN BOSS! >> DAMN You God!

TRUE LOVE > Name is HELD in HONOR > Respect God's REPUTATION

HONOR God > DEFEND His NAME > HURTS YOU if God's Name ABUSED

b. 'People of God' > Sad & Surprising Place of GREATEST MISUSE of Name

Bible says LITTLE about SWEARING PAGANS > Do NOT KNOW God

MOST about MISUSE of NAME of God by those who CLAIM to KNOW HIM

Swearing PAGAN > PROOF of God's Existence > Can't Stop Talking About Him

SAD LAMENT of GOD over WAYWARD PEOPLE OF JUDAH

All day long my name is constantly blasphemed.

Isaiah 52.5

Profanity of the world does far less damage to the coinage of the divine name than the hucksters, heretics, and healers who misuse God's name in the church.

Michael Horton

COLLEGE YEARS > Member of Alton Park Bible Church, Chattanooga, TN

One of 2 White Members > Rest Members were BLACK AMERICANS

Great Worship, Music, Lively Preaching > Lots of 'Amens' SHOUTED!

One Sunday – Pastor J.C. Upton – Began Preaching HERESY > Bad Teaching

'Amens' began TO FLOW > ENTHUSIASM Built > ABRUPTLY STOPPED!

J.C. 'I have been intentionally preaching clever lies' > Your Shouting AMEN!!

Name of GOD must NEVER Become > TRIVIAL SLOGAN, Weightless

Have GOOD and SINCERE Reason for Saying 'PRAISE THE LORD'

1) Access > Trying to GET ON GOOD SIDE, INSIDE TRACK, With God

Know MAN IN CHARGE > for Healing, Favor for Future, Victory in Battle

Let no one be found among you who...practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD
Deuteronomy 18.10-12

Detestable Practices > Found way into Covenant Nation & New Covenant Church

ACCESS to God's Favor > What WE Do > Our Church, Tradition, Ministry
CORNERED Market on God's Blessing > Prayer Cloths, Anointed Satellites

God has Only ONE FAVORITE SON > NAME is Jesus!

2) Agenda > Once you GET INSIDE, then GET SOMETHING from God

The prophets are *prophesying lies in my name*. I have not sent them or appointed them or spoken to them. They are prophesying to you false visions, divinations, idolatries and the delusions of their own minds...I did not send them, yet they are saying, 'No sword or famine will touch this land.' Those same prophets will perish by sword and famine.
Jeremiah 14.14-16

Self-Appointed PROPHETS > Popular, Pain-free, Plenty of Good Times Message
HEARD What PEOPLE WANTED > PROMISED it to them IN GOD'S NAME

MANY EXAMPLES in ISRAEL and the CHURCH > Even Today!

Crusades > Pope Promised Heaven for Killing Muslims and Stealing their Lands

Afrikaner – South Africa > Biblical SANCTION for RACIAL SEGREGATION

Germany > Evangelical Church (with some exceptions) State Church of Nazis

Israel > Ancient Promise of Land to Abe = Modern Oppression of Palestinians

America > God who BLESSES America > AND NO PLACE ELSE!

God's Name: Hate Gays - Own Submachine Guns – Invade Iraq

Difference Between MAGIC AND PRAYER -

Prayer - Resting in God's perfect, Sovereign will
 Magic – Man Seeks to Manipulate God for his own Selfish Ends

Prayer - Man is dependent, asking God for help
 Magic - Man commands god to achieve his own goals

PEOPLE OF GOD > BEAR GOD'S NAME > DIFFERENT STANDARD
 SERIOUS about GOD'S NAME > Misunderstood, even Hated by NEIGHBORS

The LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. The high places of Isaac will be destroyed and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined; with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam."

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words..."

Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom."

Amos 7.7-13

PLUMB LINE > Righteous, Incorruptible, Visible STANDARD > REVEALS All
 AMOS – True Adherence to GOD'S MESSAGE – Righteous Life = Plumb Line
 Amaziah, High Priest & King Jeroboam: EVIL ALLIANCE / Angered by Amos

Amos INTERFERED with their CORRUPTION > Religious and Economic
 Evil Leaders > Highest Standard: Man's Kingdom > Glory: Man's Name

Jesus Teaches Disciples to Pray: GLOBAL, KINGDOM VISION > God's Name

Our Father in heaven, *hallowed be your name,*
your kingdom come, your will be done... Matthew 6.9-10

c. Punishable

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, *for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.* Exodus 20.7

Exact Punishment Not Specified > UNDERSTATEMENT > Increases SEVERITY
 Strong Parent: Consistent Discipline > FIRM LOOK at Disobedient Child > FEAR

Understatement : 'I would NOT do that, if I WERE YOU!' Not GOOD Idea!

See, *the Name of the LORD* comes from afar, with burning anger and dense clouds of smoke; his lips are full of wrath, and his tongue is a consuming fire.

Isaiah 30.27

PUNISHMENT on People of God > KEEPERS of LAW

If you rely on the law and brag about your relationship to God... you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery?... "*God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.*"

Romans 2.17-24

We Should LEAD OTHERS to GOD > SOMETIMES we are ROAD BLOCKS

The son of (an) Israelite woman *blasphemed the Name with a curse*; so they brought him to Moses... Then the LORD said to Moses: "Take the blasphemer outside the camp. All those who heard him are to lay their hands on his head, and the entire assembly is to stone him... *anyone who blasphemes the name of the LORD must be put to death.*"

Leviticus 24.10-16

NO LONGER in THEOCRACY > Church does NOT HOLD Sword of JUSTICE
 NAME of God > NO LESS HOLY // Punishment – WILL BE No Less SEVERE

MORE CURSING > RELATIONSHIP GROWS MORE DISTANT > More LOST

The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire. They were seared by the intense heat and *they cursed the name of God*, who had control over these plagues, but they *refused to repent* and glorify him.

The fifth angel poured out his bowl... Men gnawed their tongues in agony and *cursed the God of heaven* because of their pains and their sores, but they *refused to repent* of what they had done....

The seventh angel poured out his bowl... From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they *cursed God* on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible. Revelation 16.8-21

PROGRESSIVE JUDGMENT > WARNINGS > No Repentance, Only Resistance

b. Protects

The LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron and his sons, "This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: ""The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." ' "So *they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.*"
Numbers 6.22-27

FANTASY Park in America – and other lands now, too – DISNEYLAND/World Home of Mickey Mouse and all his Friends > as EVERY KID Knows!
DREAM of Every Kid to Go > DREAD of Every Parent to Pay the Huge FEES
ONE Secure Gate > Surrounded by HIGH FENCES > WELL Guarded // PRISON
ONCE KID gets INSIDE > Having SO MUCH FUN > Never Thinks of FENCE
FENCE not BURDEN > BOUNDARIES of PLEASURE ZONE
INSIDE Fence > Greatest Place on Earth > MOST FUN EVER > Mickey Mouse!

COMMANDMENTS // FENCE – Within its LIMITS is ABUNDANT LIFE
REACTION to DISNEYLAND > or to COMMANDMENTS > NOT NEUTRAL

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.
Proverbs 18.10

...baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
Matthew 28.19

The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and *his name will be on their foreheads.*
Revelation 22.3,4

Casual use of God's name is prohibited precisely because it wears away our sensitivity to the enormous reverence we owe it.
Michael Horton

c. Proclaim > World is WAITING to HEAR Magnificent Name of JESUS

WORLD IS ASKING QUESTION OF THE PROVERB... What is the Name?

Who has gone up to heaven and come down? Who has gathered up the wind in the hollow of his hands? Who has wrapped up the waters in his cloak? Who has established all the ends of the earth? *What is his name, and the name of his son?*
Tell me if you know!
Proverbs 30.4

Thru TINY NATION of Israel > God shows Himself as GOD of ALL NATIONS

The Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that *my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.*"

Romans 9.17

WHEN Israel was UNFAITHFUL > God Himself Proclaims HIS GREAT NAME

My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty. Malachi 1.11

GOD SENT His Son to PROCLAIM NAME > He is THE NAME!

NIGHT BEFORE THE CROSS JESUS PRAYED....

I have *revealed your name* to those whom you gave me out of world. John 17.6

RISEN JESUS CALLED PAUL THE APOSTLE....

This man is my instrument to *carry my name before the Gentiles* Acts 9.15

...repentance and forgiveness of sins will be *preached in his name to all nations*

Luke 24.47

Apostle John Commends Church for Good Care of Traveling Preachers -

...you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers...You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. It was *for the sake of the Name* that they went out 3 John 5-7

Every M Should Know this PASSAGE > How Church Should SUPPORT THEM
'in a manner worthy of God' > LIKE they were GIVING to GOD HIMSELF!

REQUIREMENT > M Serves for GOD ALONE > For the SAKE of the NAME
FOR the NAME > GOD HIMSELF > His Purpose, Glory, and Calling ALONE

LIFE CHANGING POWER OF THE NAME OF JESUS

Let them know that you, *whose name is the LORD*-- that you alone are the Most High over all the earth. Psalm 83.18

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