

## Hallowed be your name

1. Introduction
  - A. *You shall not take the Lord's name in vain (Ex 20: 7)*
    - a. "[Jesus] places a high premium on the importance of his people recognizing his name as holy and treating it that way." (Sproul)
    - b. Maasai (Tanzania) - "Do not throw my name about. My name is important. My name is me. My name is for my friends." Vincent Donovan (Catholic Missionary)
    - c. Do we ever think to ask for the proper treatment of God's name? Do we sometimes take his name in vain even IN our prayers? ("In Jesus' name," or "In your name," etc.)
  - B. Not a statement! A petition
    - a. "May your name be seen as holy."
      1. Both an internal and external request
        - A. Cause **me** to revere your name
        - B. Cause others to revere your name
          - a. In the church and outside the church (save them!)
2. What is his name?
  - A. Elohim
    - a. Plural noun with singular verbs
    - b. Creator, all-powerful
  - B. *Yabweb* - I AM WHO I AM
    - a. His name serves as a summary of his attributes (Ex 3:14 , 33: 18-19)
      1. *Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.*
      2. *The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."* (34:6,7)
      3. Psalms:
        - A. majestic (8:1)
        - B. good (52:9)
        - C. loving (115:1)
        - D. faithful (ibid)
        - E. trustworthy (Ps. 9:10)
        - F. enduring (135:13)
    - b. Jesus is the embodiment of his name
      1. *I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. John 17:6*
      2. *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Heb. 1:1-4*
    - c. An expression of thanksgiving as well as a request (Calvin) — Thanking him for possessing and revealing the attributes associated with his name.
      1. Calvin (546): *"God is, for good reason, incomparably great, in that he is just, wise, merciful, mighty and faithful. We therefor ask that this majesty of God which shines forth in all his powers be hallowed—hallowed, indeed, not in God himself who in his person knows neither increase nor diminution, but in the sense that it be deemed holy, that is, recognized for what it is and exalted as is right and proper . . . thanksgiving is included in this petition. For when we pray that God's name be hallowed, we ascribe praise to him for all good things, we confess that everything is from him, and we acknowledge his gifts and favors to us for which he deserves to be called holy.*
3. What does it mean to "hallow" it? (Only two occurrences of "hallow" in the ESV)
  - A. ἁγιασθήτω (Hagiasthētō) - to make/keep holy
    - a. Rev. 22:11 - *Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.* (ESV) or... *Let the one who does wrong, still do wrong; and the one who is filthy, still be filthy; and let the one who is righteous, still practice righteousness; and the one who is holy, still keep himself holy.* (NASB)
    - b. Passive voice indicates that the one who is holy is doing the keeping
  - B. Magnify: *Ob, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!* (Ps. 34:3) *I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving.* (Ps. 69:30) *My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior . . . for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.* (Luke 1:47,49)
    - a. The word "magnify" can be used in two different senses. It can mean: make something appear greater than it is, as with a microscope or a magnifying glass. Or it can mean: make something that may seem small or insignificant appear to be as great as it really is. This is what our great telescopes help us begin to do with the magnificent universe which once upon a time spilled over from the brim of God's glory. So there are two kinds of magnifying: microscope magnifying and telescope magnifying. The one makes a small thing look bigger than it is. The other makes a big thing begin to look as big as it really is. // When David says, "I will magnify God with thanksgiving," he does not mean: "I will make a small God look bigger than he is. He means: "I will make a big God begin to look as big as he really is." We are not called to be microscopes, but telescopes. Christians are not called to be con-men who magnify their product out of all proportion to reality, when they

we dare not divorce them from one another. I'm convinced that although we pray for the manifestation and the victory of the kingdom of God, it is futile to hope for the victory of God's kingdom on this planet until or unless the name of God is regarded as sacred, because God's kingdom does not come to people who have no respect for Him. Likewise, we pray that the will of God will be done in this world, but God's will is not done by people who do not regard Him with reverence and with adoration. So the very beginning of godliness, the very beginning of transformation in our lives and in our society, begins with our posture before the character of God.

know the competitor's product is far superior. There is nothing and nobody superior to God. And so the calling of those who love God is to make his greatness begin to look as great as it really is. The whole duty of the Christian can be summed up in this: feel, think, and act in a way that will make God look as great as he really is. Be a telescope for the world of the infinite starry wealth of the glory of God. (<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/i-will-magnify-god-with-thanksgiving>)

C. A plea for personal holiness

a. If we are his we are called by his name, we want to reflect the attributes that his name represents

1. *We have become like those over whom you have never ruled, like those who are not called by your name.* Isaiah 63:19
2. *if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* 2 Chron. 7:14
3. Being given his name (to be told his name and identified by it) is a unique privilege: "an expression of the intimate union of God with his people." Prime p. 37

A. *He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.* Psalm 23:3

b. "purposeful balance... between God's immanence and transcendence." We have just addressed him as Father!

1. 1 Pet 1:14-21 - Reverent fear: *As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God*
2. Matt 10:28-33 - Fear HIM: *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.*
3. Is 6: 5 - A view of God's Holiness exposes our sinfulness. (Luke 5:8 - Peter, Rev. 1:17 - John)
4. *But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.* (John 4:23,24)

A. We want to be these ones! This prayer is a plea to make us true worshippers!

c. God is the one who does the hallowing! He is powerful to do it!

1. *"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."* (John 12:27-28)

D. A plea for God's name to be praised among the nations

a. We want to see the success of evangelism and missions because we want those who were once pagans and blasphemers to magnify his name with us.

1. *[Paul] is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.* (Acts 9:15)
2. Embolden us to carry your name before unbelievers
3. Empower the work of missionaries who carry your name before unreached peoples  
A. *... keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.* (Eph. 6:18-20)

E. A plea for God-honoring love and unity in the church

a. John 13:35 *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

b. Rom. 15:5-6 *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1. We need God to grant the harmony, so that we forgive and serve one another in accordance with his name

c. Prayer for our brothers and sisters to hallow his name, to have BIG thoughts about God.

1. *that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.* Eph. 1:17-23