

No Fussin' and No Cussin' - Keep My Name Holy

Scripture: Exodus 20:7; Deuteronomy 1-:20; Leviticus 10:3

Introduction: Names are more than nomenclature, and more than rhetorical use for speech. Names are significant because behind a name is a reality, or a reputation. What has become clear in this commandment is that God is concerned about His Name. And given that there is no name that can measure up to His Name, He doesn't want it to be defamed or abused.

But there is more than just the abuse of a name like His. There's the use of it.

I. There is Weight to That Name – Don't Abuse it (Exodus 20:7)

1. Because of a person's responsibility or position, their name carries a weightiness that other names do not.
2. People will use God's name to validate or vindicate a point they are making. They do so to affirm themselves.
3. People do not want their name to be defamed or abused, and so God is no different. He says, "Don't throw my name around as if it has no significance or value."

II. God's Name Is Holy – Treat it that way (Leviticus 10:3)

1. When you take an oath in the name of God that is called by law a self-maledictory oath, which is "calling judgment onto yourself, if you do not tell the truth.
2. If you break an oath as such, a judge holds you in contempt of the law, and you will be punished, so it's no small thing to misuse His name.
3. You might say His name is trademarked, so you cannot arbitrarily use His Name, because it is legally His. So, treat it as holy.
4. Having said that, God has licensed His people to be able to use His Name. But it has restrictions: don't misuse it or use it in vain.

III. How We Can Hallow and Respect that Name

1. We can show respect for that Name by our worship (Psalm 34:1).
2. We can adore that Name (Hebrews 13:15)
3. We can always give Him the glory that He is due (Psalms 29:2).
4. We can understand God better by knowing His redemptive names.
 - a. Elohim – The All-Powerful Creator
 - b. Jehovah Jireh – The Lord who will always provide
 - c. El Shaddai – The God who is more than enough.
 - d. Jehovah Rophe – the Lord that Heals
 - e. Jesus – the Name that is above every other name
 - f. Jesus – the Name at which every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that He is Lord.

IV. What can we do with that Name

1. We can WEAR that Name – Romans 1:16; Revelation 22:4
2. We can BEAR that Name – Acts 5:40-42; Philippians 2:8-11
3. If we're not willing to WEAR that Name, and BEAR that Name, then we shouldn't expect anything FROM that Name.