

DON'T BE A NAME DROPPER

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

Exodus 20:12 (NIV)

❖ Why Is God's Name So Important?

- It represents His CHARACTER. (Exodus 3:13-14)

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?' Then what shall I say to them?"¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: "I AM has sent me to you."

Exodus 3:13-14 (NIV)

- It demonstrates His AUTHORITY. (Philippians 2:9-10)

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.

Philippians 2:9-10 (NIV)

- It reveals His PERSONALITY. (Revelation 3:12)

"The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name."

Revelation 3:12 (NIV)

❖ What Happens When We Misuse God's Name?

- We disrespect God by SWEARING with His name.
- We misrepresent God by MANIPULATING with His name. (Matthew 7:15-16)

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them."

Matthew 7:15-16 (NIV)

- We disobey God by PRETENDING with His name. (Matthew 7:21)

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

❖ How Do We Respect God's Name?

- By balancing RESPECT and INTIMACY in how we use It. (Romans 8:15-16)

The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Romans 8:15-16 (NIV)

- By LIVING in a way that brings glory and honor to His name. (Psalm 115:1, Isaiah 26:8)

Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Psalm 115:1 (NIV)

Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

Isaiah 26:8 (NIV)