

BEARING THE NAME

A One-Page Synopsis on the 3rd Commandment

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:7

1. REDEFINING THE COMMANDMENT

"TAKE" (HEBREW: *NASA*)

To carry, bear, or wear as an identity.

"IN VAIN" (HEBREW: *SHAV*)

Emptiness, falsehood, or total worthlessness.

The 3rd Commandment is not merely about policing foul language; it is a call to align with our true identity. God commands His people never to wear His reputation casually or drag His name into the dirt.

2. MISREPRESENTING THE AUTHORITY

Core Illustrations

The Badge: An officer who abuses power violates the badge's authority, not just etiquette. Similarly, hypocritical believers abuse God's authority.

Kingdom of Priests: As ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20), our lives are often the only "Bible" non-believers will ever read.

Three Misuses of the Name

- **Hypocrisy:** Claiming faith on Sunday while treating others terribly Monday–Saturday.
- **Selfish Goals:** Using "God told me..." to justify personal desires or manipulate.
- **Empty Routine:** Wearing the Christian label while living indistinguishably from the world.

3. CONSTRAINT, FREEDOM & THE GOSPEL

Constraint as True Freedom

Modern culture equates freedom with zero commitment, leading to emptiness. Like a **fish in water**, humans only thrive within their created environment—God's covenant constraints (John 8:31–36).

The Gospel "Uniform Swap"

Every person fails to carry the Name perfectly. On the Cross, Jesus took our mud-stained rags and granted us His spotless, award-decorated uniform (2 Cor. 5:21).

4. PRACTICAL ALIGNMENT IN DAILY LIFE

Life Area	Practical Alignment & Heart Posture
In Our Speech	Eliminate careless talk and performative religious jargon (e.g., empty "I'm praying for you" or using spiritual language to manipulate).
In Our Work	Reframing daily tasks—coding, teaching, driving—as a silent sermon to God rather than pleasing human bosses (Col. 3:17).
In Our Conflict	Being quick to apologize and own mistakes. Owning failure reflects Christ better than defensive perfectionism.

5. IDENTITY: THE ADOPTED CHILD

Believers do not need to build a personal brand. Like an adopted child given a family signet ring, we bear a name given by grace. Stumbling doesn't strip away the name—it's a reminder of who adopted us. Wear the Name with joy, grace, and courage.

Colossians 3:17

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus..."

Matthew 5:16

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works..."