

NOTHING IN VAIN

Exodus 20:7

SERMON SUMMARY...

As we continue in the series on The TEN, we discover that Commandment #3 – do not take the Lord’s name in vain – goes beyond an avoidance of cursing God’s name. Instead, this command demands that we first acknowledge what His name means so that we understand that nothing in God’s glorious name is vain. By considering what His name is *not*, we gain an understanding of what His name *is*. The LORD, I AM, is not empty, but is glorious and full of meaning. His name is not ambiguous but uniquely personal and powerful. The LORD’s name is not meaningless, but it has the power to save us. Ultimately, we are charged to:

- Live in the full identity of God’s glorious name;
- Pray personally and powerfully; and
- Bless others in the beautiful name of Jesus.

A FEW QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

1. Do you know what your name means? What does it mean to you? How do you feel knowing that GOD knows your name?
2. Read Exodus 20:7. What do you think of when you hear the command, “do not take the Lord’s name in vain”?
3. One definition of “vain” is “having no real value.” Read Exodus 3:13-17 and Exodus 34:5-7. What does the Lord’s name mean? How does this change your perspective on the command not to take His name in vain? In what ways can you demonstrate an understanding of the worth, value, power of the Lord’s name?
4. What does it mean to live in the full identity of God’s glorious name? Consider each aspect of being baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. In what ways do you live like a child of God; a servant and friend of Jesus, and a witness through the power of the Holy Spirit?

5. What is one practical thing you can do to bring glory to God's name?

BIBLICAL TEXTS CITED...(ESV)

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain." **Exodus 20:7**

The LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with Moses 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. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished ... " **Exodus 34:5-7**

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM who I AM." And I AM said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: '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, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations. "I have observed you and what has been done to you in Egypt, and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land ... flowing with milk and honey.'" **Exodus 3:13-17**

"God has highly exalted Jesus and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." **Philippians 2:9-11**

SERMON ONLINE...

<https://www.genesisjourney.com/sermon/nothing-vain/>