



The Name Above All Names

Exodus 20:7

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The Third Commandment is fundamentally about valuing and honoring God; who God is in His character and what He has done for us in Jesus.

We are called to esteem God in our hearts, with our mouths, and by our actions.

1. What's in a Name?

Philip Ryken says, "for the Hebrews the name was inspirable from the person. It expressed a person's inward identity."

God's name communicates His holy character, His glory in creation, and testifies to His power in salvation.

2. How Do We Misuse God's Name?

- Blasphemy
- Attaching God's name to empty or false oaths
- Falsely claiming to speak for God (false prophecy/false visions)

3. How Do We Honor God's Name?

God's name can be praised, blessed, and celebrated. But each means of honoring God's name is done by having a reverential respect for who God is and what God has done to save us in Jesus.

Colossians 3:17, "And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Questions to Consider

1. How do you see God's name misused in the world today? How do Christians misuse it?
2. How might the name of God be misused in our hearts?
3. Read Acts 19:11-20? What did the sons of Sceva do wrong? How did this event end up spreading the gospel?
4. What are some lessons we learn from the story in Acts above, in both misusing and rightly using God's name?
5. Colossians 3:17 is quoted earlier. What does it mean to do something "in the name of the Lord Jesus"? What does it accomplish when we, like Paul, do things in Jesus' name?
6. As you're reminded that it's by God's name you are saved, that you bear His name as a Christian, and that dishonoring God's name is not only unlawful but also dishonoring to His reputation among nonbelievers, how should considering this commandment affect your life? How can you more fully obey it this week?

Pray (on your own or with your Home Group), pleading for the name of Jesus to be honored as the name above all names. Pray, pleasing the very name of Jesus in praise, thanksgiving, and intercession.

Next Week's Sermon Text: Exodus 20:8-11