

Yahweh's Name

READ Exodus 3:13-14

Q.4 In what sense did Moses discover that God is knowable?

Quote: "The 3rd commandment is directed not toward Yahweh's protection but toward Israel's."

Q.5 How might this be so?

READ Acts chapter 9 recording Saul's conversion. Note especially vs. 15: *"But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." (NIV)*

Q.6 In what sense would Saul/Paul bear God's name in the years that follow? How does the fact that you, as a Christian, bear God's name influence your behaviour from day to day?

Taking God's name in vain

Vanity = "to empty of content, to make irrelevant." Making oaths in the Old Testament times was a necessary process for credit checks and promises. The phrase "As the Lord liveth..." became popular as an expression of reliance on God to fulfil the promise. God knows all, so God knows if I'm truthful in what I say.

Q.7 How might the name of God be 'emptied of meaning' by a person's misuse?

Q.8 What parallel's might exist in our 'oaths' and promises today?

Jesus promised in John 14:14 provision for those who ask 'in his name'

Q.9 What kinds of requests in prayer might contravene the 3rd commandment?



10 Commandments

Exodus 20:1-21
#3 Don't Misuse God's name

Introduction

"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name." Exod 20:7

What's in a name

Q.1 What do you think it means to "not take the Lord's name in vain?"

Q.2 What do we mean when we say people wish "to make a name for themselves?"

Q.3 What does your own name mean?

In Biblical times, a person's name could have great significance:

- ◆ Representing reputation (e.g. Gen. 11:4; Phil. 2:9-11)
- ◆ Expressing vocation (e.g. Jeshua = saviour)
- ◆ Profiling personality (e.g. Jacob

means "crook, supplanter", but his name was changed to Israel because he wrestled with God)

10 Ways
2 Live



