

Sunday, January 22, 2023

Title: “God’s Name”

Text: Exodus 20:7

Series: *Exodus: God Sovereignly Saves His People*

I. Do not take God's Name in Vain - the 3rd Commandment.

Exodus 20:7 (ESV)

⁷ “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.

Our posture towards God, His Name, in our words and in our lifestyle should be:

#1. Serious not Casual – *THE Name of THE LORD*

#2. Relational not Arbitrary – *the LORD YOUR God*

#3. Substantive and Weighty not Frivolous or Empty – *in vain...in vain*

#4. Aware of Divine Justice not Injustice – *for the Lord will not hold him guiltless*

EXPAND: How God’s Name can be taken in vain:

Violation 1: God’s name in service of what is false.

Violation 2: God’s name in service of what is frivolous.

Violation 3: God’s name in service of that which is phony.

II. Do not remake God into an image of your choosing - the 2nd Commandment

Exodus 20:4–6 (ESV)

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

In our heart, mind, and soul, we should delight in Who God is—according to God, not according to us. Therefore, we must:

1. **Not Make Replacements or Misrepresentations** – *not make for yourself...any likeness of anything [created] (v. 4)*

2. **Not Worship a counterfeit God as if God** - ⁵ *You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God*

3. **Rejoice that God both punishes evil and gives loyal love --**

⁵ *You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.*