

Serm. Series: The Good, The Goad, The Guide: Ten Commandments

Sermon Text: Exodus 20:7 Glorious Name: Third Commandment

Because God's name is glorious it is to be cherished with reverence and awe.

1) God's name is glorious.

- a) "Name"—all God's perfections; His whole Person as revealed in His Word and works
- b) "I AM"—LORD (Jehovah; Yahweh; Tetragrammaton; YHWH; Exod. 3:14-17; 33:19; 34:5-8)
- c) "Our Father who art in heaven" (Matt. 6:9)
- d) "the name of Jesus"—"The LORD Saves"
- e) "the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"—the Triune Name (cf. Num. 6:24)
- f) "glorious name" (1 Chron. 29:13; Ps. 72:19; Isa. 63:14; Neh. 9:5)—weighty; heavy

2) God's name is to be cherished.

- a) Song of Solomon 1:3 "your name is oil poured out"
- b) Psalm 119:132; Psalm 69:36 "those who love Your name"

3) God's name is to be cherished with reverence and awe.

- a) "vain"—inconsequential
- b) God is not to be taken lightly:
 - i) in our conversation
 - (1) swearing falsely by the Lord's name (Lev. 19:12)
 - (2) false prophecy in the name of the Lord (Jer. 14:14-15)
 - (3) implicating God's name in our subjective impressions and impulses (Job 42:7, 8); "God told me" "God led me" "
 - (4) flippantly using God's name as "filler" or exclamation
 - (5) using God's name to impress or manipulate others
 - ii) in our conduct
 - (1) involving the name of God in any vile practice (1 Cor. 6:11; Matt. 28:19; Ezek. 36:20-21)
 - (2) misusing anything holy (Lev. 22:2f.)
 - (3) Working in Jesus' name without doing the Father's will and knowing Christ (Matt. 7:21-23; Acts 19:13-17)
 - iii) in our worship (Jer. 7:30; Ezek. 20:39; Mal. 1:6f.)
 - (1) praying in Jesus' name as an empty ritual expression
 - (2) singing thoughtlessly or irreverently
 - iv) in our thoughts
 - v) in our affections

4) Hindrances to cherishing God's name:

- a) High thoughts of self
- b) Low and little thoughts of God
- c) Culture of casual

5) Helps for cherishing God's name:

- a) Read the Bible and good theology to know God
- b) Sing the Psalms and Scriptural hymns/songs
- c) Pray "Hallowed be Thy name"
- d) Lament the abuse of God's name
- e) Rejoice in the cross of Christ as your redemption from taking God's name in vain (John 12:27-28)

Doxology: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD! Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised! (Psalm 113:1-3)