



## No Sacrilege

5<sup>th</sup> in the “10 Commandments” Series

Exodus 20:7 & Philippians 2:9-11

February 13, 2022

Pastor Mickey Klink

### Introduction

In this passage we learn about the third of the Ten Commandments.

### The Text:

#### Exodus 20:7

*<sup>7</sup> “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.”*

#### Philippians 2:9-11

*<sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

1. The third commandment forbids any use of God’s name that is irreverent or for personal benefit.
2. The third commandment demands that Christians represent God in a fitting manner.

WCL 112: “The third commandment requires, that the name of God, his titles, attributes, ordinances, the word, sacraments, prayer, oaths, vows, lots, his works, and whatsoever else there is whereby he makes himself known, be holily and reverently used in thought, meditation, word, and writing; by an holy profession, and answerable conversation, to the glory of God, and the good of ourselves, and others.”

3. The third commandment shepherds us to see that Christ is the means by which the name of God is properly honored and lifted up.

**-APP:** What does obeying the third commandment look like?

- (1) Guard your words *and* deeds – you represent Christ!
- (2) Guard your heart – treat God with holy reverence in every corner of your life.

### Response

Lord, you have given us your name to worship and honor. Help us to represent you properly in all things.

## Sunday Text Questions for (“Ten Commandments” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: How has the Ten Commandments series been helpful or insightful for you thus far?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How might the third commandment be more complex when the word “take” is properly understood to mean not don’t “speak” but don’t “carry” or “bear” the name of God in vain?
- 4) Even more, how does understanding that “name” means not a title for a person but their character, reputation, or authority change how we should interpret the third commandment?
- 5) How might the third commandment mean we should not apply or connect “God” to anything not explicitly approved in Scripture?
- 6) In what ways might our culture apply things to God which the third commandment would question or challenge?
- 7) If we claim to be God’s people (Christians) and then live like we are not, how might we be “taking the name of God in vain?”
- 8) If we pray in public in a way that makes us look spiritual or intelligent, how might we be “taking the name of God in vain?”
- 9) What does it look like to hold God’s “name” (his reputation, authority, and character) with honor and reverence?
- 10) How did this study on the third commandment help you expand its meaning beyond cussing to the way we represent God with all areas of our lives?

**Further study this week:** Passages related to the third commandment: Exodus 3:13-15 (Mon); Exodus 23:20-23 (Tues); Numbers 6:22-27 (Wed); Matthew 5:33-37 (Thurs); Philippians 2:5-11 (Fri).