

Summary:

- I. Bear the name
- II. Obey the command
- III. Heed the warning
- IV. Believe the Gospel

Key Truths:

- Ten Commandments:
 - 1: Worship Me alone
 - 2: Worship Me rightly (no idols)
 - 3: Bear My name well
- In relation to pagan gods of the world
 - 1: Worship God alone, not other gods
 - 2: Cast aside all other idols / evidence of other gods
 - 3: You belong to God, not other gods.
- In vain: pretend that you are God's people with no intention to be faithful to Him.
- even though we take God's name in vain, we can find mercy before Him through Jesus Christ.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- How have you heard or seen modern day examples of taking God's name in vain
 - ("I have a word from the Lord", "I swear to God," "I am a Christian" but lives otherwise)
- What does it mean to live a life of integrity and honesty? Are there areas of hypocrisy in your life where you need to repent and turn to Jesus?
- James 1:22 admonishes us to be "doers of the Word." What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?

The Purpose of the Ten Commandments:

1. Teach us about God's character
2. They point out our sinfulness.
3. They direct us to Christ and the need we have for Him.
4. They teach us how to live freely.

Passage:

Exodus 20:7

You shall not take the name of Yahweh your God in vain, for Yahweh will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

EXPOSITION

Overview

- I. Bear the name
- II. Obey the command
- III. Heed the warning
- IV. Believe the Gospel

I. BEAR THE NAME

the name of Yahweh your God

God's name

- It bears His identity

Psalms 138:1-2

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

- "before the gods"
 - What does this mean?

Deuteronomy 32:8

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

Acts 17:26

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place,

- At the Tower of Babel: God scrambled the languages and apportioned the earth into nations.

Psalms 82:1-2

God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment: "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah

- "In the midst of the gods" = multiple nations worshipping false gods

Psalms 82:6-8

I said, "You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince." Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations!

- ultimately God alone reigns while all are under Him.

Book of Exodus

- Entire Bible in a book.
- Ten Commandments:
 - 1: Worship Me alone
 - 2: Worship Me rightly (no idols)
 - 3: Bear My name well
- In relation to pagan gods of the world
 - 1: Worship God alone, not other gods
 - 2: Cast aside all other idols
 - 3: You belong to God, not other gods.

Genesis 4:26

To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

- people began to call upon God's name in the age of Enosh.

Exodus 3:3-5

And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

- God speaks His name from the burning bush

Exodus 3:15

God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

II. OBEY THE COMMAND

You shall not take the name of Yahweh your God in vain,

Who is God?

Exodus 20:2

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Exodus 34:14

(for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),

- God's name is Jealous
 - The eyes of your God never wander and are always for you.

Take

- What does it mean?
 - Is it merely not saying certain phrases or saying His name flippantly?
- Meaning: you own His name
 - You exalt His name.
 - You glorify His name.

In Vain

- pretend that you are God's people with no intention to be faithful to Him.

Isaiah 29:13

And the Lord said:

“Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,

Isaiah 52:5

Now therefore what have I here,” declares the LORD, “seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail,” declares the LORD, “and continually all the day my name is despised.

Modern day examples of taking God's name in vain:

- "I have a word from the Lord"
 - If the person is not quoting Scripture, then it is taking God's name in vain
- "I swear to God"

James 5:12

But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

- "I am a Christian" (but lives otherwise)

Matthew 21:28-31a

“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?”

III. HEED THE WARNING

for Yahweh will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

- God will avenge His name
 - Zero tolerance.

Exodus 33:19

And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

Jesus: many references to "I AM" (pointing to His deity)

John 6:20

But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."

John 4:26

Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." John 8:24

I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins."

John 8:58

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

John 13:19

I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he.

John 18:6

When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Revelation 22:13

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Exodus 34:5-7

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

IV. BELIEVE THE GOSPEL

1 Timothy 1:13-15

though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving

of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

- even though we take God's name in vain, we can find mercy before Him through Christ.
- The great I AM came down and died for the guilty. Jesus died for us.

Psalms 8:1a

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

- How great is God's name!
- How majestic is His love, power, mercy, and grace!

Isaiah 65:1

I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that was not called by my name.

Isaiah 43:25

"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Psalms 25:11

For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

Psalms 109:21

But you, O GOD my Lord, deal on my behalf for your name's sake; because your steadfast love is good, deliver me!

Jeremiah 14:7

"Though our iniquities testify against us, act, O LORD, for your name's sake; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against you.

Jeremiah 14:21

Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us.

Ezekiel 20:44

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways, nor according to your corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD."

Romans 10:9-10, 13

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved....For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Acts 4:12

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

1 John 2:12

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

Philippians 2:9-11

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