

The 3rd Commandment - Pearce & Stone

We come to the Third Commandment **Don't take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.**

We prayed at the beginning of the service '**Hallowed be Your Name**' (Holy be Your Name). Separated be Your Name. **God's name is holy. God is in His name, His nature is in His name.**

Name	Name in Hebrew	Meaning	Example verse
Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh	אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה	"I AM THAT I AM"	Exodus 3:14
Yahweh (Yahveh), Jehovah (Yehovah)	יהוה	Possibly "I AM", translated LORD	Exodus 3:4
Elohim	אֱלֹהִים	Mighty God/ gods	Genesis 1:1, Exodus 20:3
Adonai	אֲדֹנָי	Lord/Master	Genesis 20:4
Adonai Yahweh	אֲדֹנָי יְהוָה	Lord God	Genesis 15:2
Yah (Jah)	יְהִי	Shortened form of יהוה	Exodus 15:2
Yahweh Elohim	יהוה אֱלֹהִים	LORD God	Genesis 2:4

In **Exodus chapter 3** God speaks to Moses in **verse 11**. And He says when Moses asks Him **what is His name? What shall I say to them?** God answers Moses: **I am who I am. Thus, you shall say to the children of Israel "I am has sent you."**

God tells us His name. He is '**I am**'. He is the eternal living one. He is **Yahweh**, Jehovah, God with us. And He tells us His Name is Holy, that we should keep His Name Holy, and worship His Name.

One of the problems with this verse and with the whole concept of God's Name is that, because the Name of God written in the Bible is four letters in Hebrew which are unpronounced

today by the Jews and indeed by us as well, we don't know how to pronounce the Name of God, how to pronounce those four letters due to the fact that ancient Hebrew doesn't have vowels.

If you look at a modern text of the Bible, It'll have little dots underneath it which are the vowels which tell you how to pronounce the name. So, how do you pronounce it? Jehovah? Yahweh? There are all sorts of possible combinations.

The Jewish people actually found that they had lost the knowledge of how to pronounce the name, so they changed the name to **Adonai** which means 'My Lord', and when you look in the Bible, you'll find that wherever you have the name **YHWH**, you have four letters 'LORD' (in capital letters).

This is the only point I will actually concede to Jehovah's Witnesses. They say that it should be a name, that it shouldn't be 'LORD'. Actually, it should be a name, it's not going to be 'Jehovah' because it couldn't be pronounced *Jehovah* for various reasons, but it is a name, it's not LORD. But because we have this convention now, it is LORD and we actually don't know how to pronounce the name and therefore stick to 'LORD', and the Jews, when they read the scriptures, say **Adonai**. But that's not what the word says. It says **Ye..He..We..He..** which may be **Yahweh** or maybe something else. That's His Name.

Whatever It is, It's the Name, we have to stick, I think, with the name 'LORD', with God. And when it comes to the New Testament, we come to the name **Yeshua**/Jesus. Then, when we come to the name Jesus Christ and we have another problem because Jesus Christ in Hebrew (**Yeshua HaMashiach**) and in Greek (**Ιησούς Χριστός**) becomes 'Jesus Christ' in English.

For a comprehensive list of the Torah's Hebrew names of God, please check:

<https://hebrewrootsmom.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Names-of-God-Chart.pdf>

חִשְׁמָה עוֹשֵׂי

When we say 'Jesus Christ', we miss the fact that He is *Yeshua/Salvation, the Messiah*. But that's what His Name is and that's His Name by which we are saved.

Some people get so upset about this that they won't even say the name 'Jesus'.

They always call Him *Yeshua*. Now, I believe that God knows who we're talking about whether we say *Jesus* or we say *Yeshua*.

If we honour His Name, then we are on His Name, and if we call on His Name, we can be saved by It. The Bible says: **Whoever calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved**. That's why, of course, we have to honour the Name of God and teach His Name with great honour and respect.

Because of the holiness of His Name, It should be used in the context of worship, praise, teaching, and of speaking about the Name of Jesus to others. It should never be used as a swear-word or a word of open to mockery.

Another fact of our society today is that we have 'open use' of the Name of God continually, as a swear-word. Even now, you have people texting each other with acronyms like 'OMG'. You notice what they're actually saying: 'Oh my God'. You find people, especially young people today, they're saying 'Oh my God' all the time without knowing what they're saying. This is actually taking the Name of the Lord in vain, and it's pretty distressing if you're a Christian to have people all around you speaking that Name all the time, because you know that God's Name is holy and it shouldn't be used as a swear-word or used just in a casual sense in that way.

It's interesting also that nobody ever says 'Oh Muhammad' or 'Oh Buddha'.

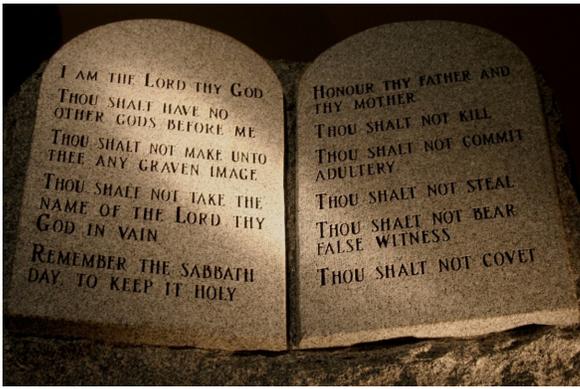
Have you ever heard anybody use that as a swear-word? But they do say 'Oh Jesus', 'Oh Christ'. Why is that? It has to be because, actually, **the Devil knows that these names are holy and if he can get people to use them in a profane way, then, he's actually causing people to break this commandment.**



If we do that, we should stop doing it, we should repent and not do it. This Name of God is holy because it's through the Name of the Lord, according to the Name of the Lord, that we are saved. **Whoever calls on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.**

To conclude, when we look at the *Torah* Commandments in the light of the New Covenant, we recognize that they teach us a number of things which we should do. They also show us that there are, in our own lives, areas where we fail to keep them. Paul, in *Galatians*, called the *Torah*, the Commandments of God, **a school master to bring us to Christ** and they show us that we have a problem in our lives which is sin. Paul said **All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.**

This is the glory of God. These commandments, if we break them, then, we fall short of the glory of God.



Anybody never broken any of the Ten Commandments? Probably not. In fact, definitely not!

There is none righteous. No, not one. The fact that we read these commandments and they tell us that we break them, tells us also that we need a Saviour. **And praise God we have One who has not broken the commandments, who has lived a perfect life without sin, and He has paid the price of our sin by dying for us on the cross.** Galatians tells us that the *Torah*, the Law, is a school master to bring us to Christ, to bring us to Jesus.

So when we see our sin, we recognize that we need a Saviour and praise God.

God has provided us with a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ who paid the price for our sin in full when he died on the cross and took the punishment that we deserve in order that we might be forgiven and that we might be born again to newness of life through faith in Jesus.

So, actually, **you need the New Covenant really, to read the Old Covenant because if you don't have the New Covenant then, actually, you don't have a way to be redeemed from it.**

The *Torah* is, in fact, going to provide a system by which you could pay the price for sin by offering sacrifices, especially in **Leviticus 16** and **17** where it shows the sacrifices to be made for the Day of Atonement. But **since the destruction of the Temple, those sacrifices cannot be made. So, even in Judaism today, there is no way for your sins to be forgiven under the *Torah*,** except through repentance and faith in Yeshua/Jesus the Messiah, who is the Messiah of Israel and also the Saviour of the world.

It all comes back to Jesus, and **Jesus is the One who gives us the answer. He's the one who gives us hope, He gives us redemption, He is the Saviour, He's the Messiah, He is the glory of God. He was there at the giving of the Commandments, He is there at the cross, at His Resurrection, and He's there with us now, that whoever calls on the name of the Lord can be saved and have eternal life.**

Therefore, do that! Believe! Believe God, believe the Commandments, and keep the Commandments of God as best you can knowing that if we fail, if we sin, we have an advocate with the Father.

Jesus Christ is the righteous One whose blood has paid the price for our sin and in whose Name we can be forgiven, and in Whom our relationship with God can be restored. So, we give thanks to the Lord for Jesus. Let's just have a word of prayer:

Lord we do thank You for Jesus. Thank you that You've come to redeem us, thank You that You are without sin, that You took the price of our sins. We recognize that we all fall short of Your Glory, and we pray Lord, that You forgive us and cleanse us, and fill us anew with Your Holy Spirit. And we do pray for our world. We pray particularly for the religious world that is so much in confusion in our time. We pray that You convict people that there is one God, one Mediator between God and man, the Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us and rose from the dead, and that they might repent of seeking to put other gods before You and to make alliances with which they should not make alliance. Lord, we pray that You would save us in these last days, and save people from their sins, and bring people to the knowledge of the true God through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen; amen.

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