



Do We Take God's Name in Vain?

Exodus 20:7: (NASB) *You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.*



"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." It is one of the Ten Commandments, so it must be important. But, what does it really mean? Is it just about the words we use or is there more to it than that? Can our thoughts and actions also be a manifestation of taking God's name in vain? What is the end result of carelessly handling God's name? How do we become more aware of ourselves so we hold the name of God with reverence, honor and respect?

First of all, what does the commandment actually mean?

Exodus 20:7: (NASB) *You shall not **take <5375> the name of the LORD your God in **vain** <7723>, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.***

Take: Strong's #5375 asn nasa' naw-saw' or hon nacah naw-saw'

1) to lift, bear up, carry, take 2) to lift, lift up

3) to bear, carry, support, sustain, endure 4) to take, take away, carry off, forgive

Exodus 6:8: *And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did **swear** <5375> to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it to you for an heritage: I am the LORD.*

Exodus 10:13: *And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind **brought** <5375> the locusts.*

So, the idea behind "take" is to "hold, possess or carry;" to have whatever you are holding be, in a sense, a form of your signature.

Vain: Strong's #7723 awv shav' shawv or wv shav shav 1) emptiness, vanity, falsehood

2) emptiness, nothingness, vanity 3) emptiness of speech, lying 4) worthlessness (of conduct)

Some examples of the use of "vain" (Old Testament)

Exodus 23:1: (KJV) *Thou shalt not raise a **false <7723> report: put not thine hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness.***

Psalms 24:3-5: (KJV) ³Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto **vanity <7723>, nor sworn deceitfully. ⁵He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

So, the idea behind "vain" is that of a falsehood or an exaggerated and fantasy view of what is actually real.



A caller from Indiana suggests that [Job 38](#) explains the infinite wisdom of God. It should take a person to trembling...who are we?



There are many levels of taking God's name in vain. Here is a basic, common and mostly unconscious example:

))) **Young people, Using the Lord's Name in Vain, Greg Laurie**

- *But there's another way, and it's just when people say God carelessly, "Oh God!" "God, I just can't believe this," just to make a point "Oh, God"! You'll hear sometimes young people having a conversation: "Umm, I'm like, are you gonna go? He's all, like, I'm not gonna go. I'm like, oh my God, I hope you go. He's all..." (Laughter). Right? You've heard that? I honestly believe that's taking the Lord's name in vain. Don't use God's name like that.*



People say the phrase "Oh my God" in a flippant way, whether they believe in God or not! It has become an expression as part of our language, but is it a proper use of the name of God? No!

If we are supposed to be representing Christ-likeness, we have a big responsibility.

ev. Valerie V. Vernon, Deacon
ev. Lorna Sw
m. Jennings
w. Patricia
1 Canon Bluns
w. Earl F. He
The Rich & Aff,
w. Donna
Maile Miller
s. Jean B. M
ndrew J. Shee
Kerry Allen
s. Ann K. Hor
o Kahl &
Rev'd (Wyle) O
mid L Hopkins +

What does taking
God's name
in vain mean?
To possess the name of
God as a **signature**
of your life
when in fact it is a
forgery, a false or
frivolous representation
of who you really are.

leen P. Cannon
Robert Sullivan
ch of Alps +
all Met +
Marty Miller
Miss Ingram - D
Mark Andrew Jones
Fujita CR C
e. Kypert
son - H. Lee
M. M. Hawn
Thorstad
L. K. S. Thompson
- H. A. S. H.



Are there consequences for taking God's name in vain?

Immediate context of our theme verse: It's all about God - God should be first and only!

Exodus 20:1-4,7-8: (NASB) ¹Then God spoke all these words, saying, ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³You shall have no other gods before Me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth...⁷**You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him *unpunished* <5352> who takes His name in vain.** ⁸Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

God's name is to be held in the highest esteem possible.

Unpunished: Strong's #5352 to be empty, be clear, be pure, be free, be innocent, be desolate, be cut off

Don't take His name in vain because you will not be able to walk away "clear." There is recompense. God is talking to Israel, who were in covenant relationship with Him. This is not a commandment that went out to the general people in the world; rather, to those who understood who God was and who, at that moment in time, had seen God's deliverance in their very lives.

For those of us who call ourselves "Christians," we have seen God in our very lives. We have a covenant relationship to God through Christ, so we should treat this commandment with grave seriousness.

 **Using God to make a sale, Using the Lord's Name in Vain, Greg Laurie**

- *And sometimes people will use God's name to make a sale, "Oh yes, you know, we're a Christian business," and that's great if you want to say you're a Christian business. I just hope you do good work but don't wear your faith on your sleeve to get a sale. Make sure you deliver the goods in an honest way. Do your job and work with great integrity. But sometimes I feel people will use their Christianity just to get business.*

There are fine lines to be drawn here. We should do our job with the greatest integrity.

Next is a sad example of a man of God falling into a pattern of irreverent representation of God. We will drop in on the prophet Jonah in the midst of his punishment for his vain treatment of God and His command.

Jonah 2:1-9: (KJV) *Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly,*

Sometimes we find reverence when we have no other choice!

²And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. ³For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

Reverence plows the road for true faith:

⁴Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. ⁵The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about; the weeds were wrapped about my head. ⁶I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me forever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.



He repented for miscarrying the name of God and His instructions and prophecies by running away. He understood this punishment was because of his own choices.

True faith recognizes forgiveness!

*⁷When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. ⁸They that observe lying **vanities** <7723> forsake their own mercy. ⁹But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that that I have vowed. Salvation is of the LORD.*

Forgiveness puts the stories of our lives under the light of truth and renews determination!



"The Prophet Jonah,"
by Michelangelo
Buonarroti,
Fresco 1508-1512
Sistine Chapel ceiling,
Vatican City



A caller from Connecticut suggests Deuteronomy 2:25: *This day will I begin to put the dread of thee and the fear of thee upon the nations who are under the whole heaven, who shall hear report of thee, and shall tremble and be in anguish because of thee. This is God's promise to Israel.*



The fear or utter respect and reverence for the name of God prophetically is coming to the world. That is what the world needs to shake it out of its lethargy of being idolatrous in worshipping ourselves and what we do and feel. The idea of taking God's name in vain is to carry it with emptiness. It is supposed to be the signature of our life. What do we "sign" by our thoughts and actions?

John Q. Christian

Jesus re-establishes the "God first" and "God only" approach for us:

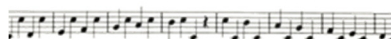
Matthew 22:36-40: (NRSV) ³⁶Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? ³⁷He said to him, you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

"Reverence is an emotion that we can nurture in our very young children, respect is an attitude that we instill in our children as they become school-agers, and responsibility is an act that we inspire in our children as they grow through the middle years and become adolescents."

— Zoe Weil, *Above All, Be Kind: Raising a Humane Child in Challenging Times*

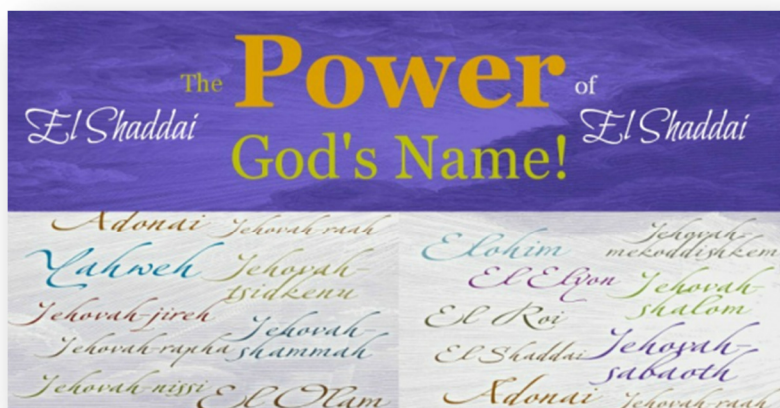
God has many names to describe Him.

What's in a name?



"El Shaddai," (Verse 1) Michael Card

El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
El-Elyon na Adonia,
Age to age You're still the same,
By the power of the name.
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
Erkamka na Adonai,
We will praise and lift You high,
El Shaddai.





El: Strong's #410 'el

1) God, god-like one, mighty one 2) mighty men, men of rank, mighty heroes 3) angels

Psalms 18:2: (KJV) *The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my **God <410>**, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.*

Psalms 90:2: (KJV) *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art **God <410>**.*

Shaddai: Strong's #7706 ydv Shadday shad-dah'-ee;
Almighty, most powerful

Psalms 91:1: (KJV) *He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the **Almighty <7706>**.*

You can't hide there unless you treat His name with utmost respect and gravity, not frivolity.

Genesis 17:1: (KJV) *And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the **Almighty <7706> God <410>**; walk before Me, and be thou perfect.*

In other words, "Carry My name with respect and dignity and I will bless you." God's name is to be held up high with sacredness.

This refers to God completely nourishing, satisfying, and supplying His people with all their needs as a mother would her child. Connected with the word for God, El, this denotes a God who freely gives nourishment and blessing; He is our sustainer.

El Elyon: Strong's #5945 Nwyle Æelyown el-yone'; an elevation, i.e. (adj.) lofty (compar.); as title, the Supreme: — (Most, on) high (-er, -est), upper (-most).

Genesis 14:18: (KJV) *And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the **most high <5945> God <410>**.*

Psalms 78:35: (KJV) *And they remembered that God was their rock, and the **high <5945> God <410>** their redeemer.*

It expresses the extreme sovereignty and majesty of God and His highest preeminence. When the two words are combined — El Elyon — it can be translated as "the most exalted God." Psalms 57:2

Adonai: #136 ynda 'Adonay ad-o-noy' am 1) my lord, lord 2) of men 3) of God
4) Lord-title, spoken in place of Yahweh in Jewish display of reverence

Psalms 68:19: (KJV) *Blessed be the **Lord <136>**, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the **God <410>** of our salvation. Selah.*

Psalms 62:12: (KJV) *Also unto thee, O **Lord <136>**, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.*

Qanna: #7067 anq qanna' kan-naw' jealous (only of God)

Exodus 34:14: (KJV) *For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is **Jealous <7067>**, is a **jealous <7067> God <410>**:*

This is not from the standpoint of, "you have something I want so I am jealous." God is all powerful and almighty. He is our Creator and requires us



to acknowledge Him as such, because we do not have another creator! Worshipping false gods takes away His honor and glory.

Deuteronomy 4:24: (KJV) *For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a **jealous** <7067> God <410>.*

To carry the name of God through Jesus is to essentially sign His name to our lives. Are we signing His name in good faith or are we forging His name because we are not *living* His name?

Would Jesus himself sign off on what you are doing on Monday? Not Sunday, but Monday, Tuesday or Friday or Saturday night? Would God Himself sign off on that? If He wouldn't, why are you doing it if you are carrying His name through Jesus?



"I Got a Name," (Verse 1) Jim Croce

Like the pine trees lining the winding road
I got a name, I got a name
Like the singing bird and the croaking toad
I got a name, I got a name
And I carry it with me like my daddy did
But I'm living the dream

What about *our* names? Is there and should there be meanings attached?

A prophecy about Israel's future:

Isaiah 62:1-3: (NASB) *¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not keep quiet, until her righteousness goes forth like brightness, and her salvation like a torch that is burning. ²The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; and you will be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD will designate. ³You will also be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.*

God will work through this physical nation to bring forth brightness and salvation. With a new name, there will also be a sacred new position! What new name?

Jeremiah 33:16: (KJV) *In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell in safety; and this is the name by which she will be called: the LORD is our righteousness.*

The new name reflects reverence for God Almighty, "The Lord is our righteousness."

Simon was given a new name:

Matthew 16:16-18: (NASB) *¹⁶Simon Peter answered, you are the Christ, the Son of the living God. ¹⁷And Jesus said to him, blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.*

His name was to symbolize the change that was to crystallize in him - how about us?



Revelation 2:17: (NASB) *¹⁷He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.*

Again there is a promise of a new name once that crystalized character is in place.

Rick's name is Richard Domenic, meaning Richard ("strong") Domenic ("in the Lord"). His parents' desire was that he would grow into his name.

Until he gave his heart to the Lord in his 20's, Jonathan was always known as Jon. He used his full name to start a new beginning. It means "a gift from God."

Names have meaning. If we claim the name of Christ, we are claiming a meaning for our lives. That becomes our signature. Does it reflect the name we claim to hold?

The name that we carry - our signature - will always reflect that which we most highly honor:

2 Timothy 2:16-19: (NASB) *¹⁶But avoid worldly and empty chatter, for it will lead to further ungodliness, ¹⁷and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some. ¹⁹Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, The Lord knows those who are His, and, everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness.*

**It all comes down to reverence - so why is reverence
so hard to find in our world?**

Here are some examples of reverence in the Bible:

First, within the angelic hosts:

Isaiah 6:1-3: (NASB) *¹In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. ²Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called out to another and said, Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.*

Even among the mightiest of spiritual beings, there is a sense of awe and submission in the presence of Almighty!

Exodus 3:4-6: (NASB) *⁴When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, Moses, Moses! And he said, here I am. ⁵Then He said do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. ⁶He said also, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.*

Moses was in over his head! He was in a place of such sacred meaning that he needed direction to be able to give proper honor and respect. He was rightfully afraid to try to look upon God.

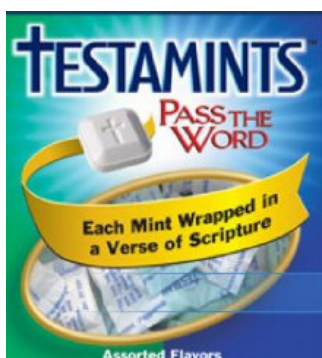


A caller from Connecticut suggests Luke 1:59,60: *They were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, No. He will be called John.* Many actions are defended in the name of the group: "Our family always did it *this way*." "Do it for the team." "It's our policy." "My country, right or wrong." But the Christian operates under a different name. Acts 13:9: *But Saul, also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit.* The Christian takes the name of Christ. Under the name of Christ, we can embrace all peoples. Not bound by a single name, but free to act in love and compassion. Hebrews 1:4: *As far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.*

Saul means "desired," and Paul means "small or little."

 **Christian breath mints, *Using the Lord's Name in Vain*, Greg Laurie**

- *Why is it we have to have a Christian version of everything? When I was in a Christian bookstore the other day, there were Christian breath mints. Do we need Christian breath mints? I'm not kidding, you open up the little tin, there's a Scripture inside and each one is in the shape of a fish. Oh yeah, I don't want to use secular breath mints. Those godless Certs you know... Christian breath mints!*



Available Now!

Sometimes the churches in our day live God's name in vain when it is all about money. The name of Christ becomes a name of profit. That is as far away from godliness as we can imagine. Let us not fall into that category.

"Men are swayed more by fear than by reverence." -
Aristotle

What's in a name?

(Rick and Trish discuss the naming of their three children and how they really grew into their names as adults.)





We lack reverence because we are too busy trying to make ourselves look good:

Matthew 5:33-37: (NASB) ³³Again, you have heard that the ancients were told; You shall not make false vows, but shall fulfill your vows to the Lord. ³⁴But I say to you make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷But let your statement be, yes, yes or no, no; anything beyond these is of evil.

Say what you are going to do and do it. We lack reverence because we are too busy fighting for "position" in a worthless pecking order!

James 3:8-12: (NASB) ⁸But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; ¹⁰from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. ¹¹Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.

James points out a contradiction that is not right.

There is one all important question to be asked:



"Who are you," The Who

Well, who are you? (Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)
I really wanna know (Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)
Tell me, who are you? (Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)
'Cause I really wanna know (Who are you? Who, who, who, who?)

Who are we? What does the signature of our actions show to the world? How important is reverence? Are we living the name of Jesus or do we just claim his name to make us feel better?

We lack reverence because we are too busy with our own reactions and conclusions:

Ephesians 4:25-28: (NASB) ²⁵Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not give the devil an opportunity. ²⁸He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need.

What are some practical ways to carry the Lord's name with reverence?

Realize what causes our reverential lapses and what does not:

Matthew 15:15-20: (NASB) ¹⁵Peter said to him, explain the parable to us. ¹⁶Jesus said, are you still lacking in understanding also? ¹⁷Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? ¹⁸But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. ²⁰These are the things, which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.

Corruption can come from the "inside out" - what we conjure in our hearts and let it do in our lives.



A caller from Connecticut suggests that reverence goes along with putting God first. "Anytime I put anything else first, I've lost that reverence. Selfishness is rampant in our lives. We put our comfort first, our money first, and other things that take away from our reverence for God."



Bird feeders and mud flaps, Using the Lord's Name in Vain, Greg Laurie

- You can buy Christian bird feeders. You need a Christian bird feeder. You have to preach the gospel to every creature. You put a little Scripture there for the hummingbird. He's moving around, "I can't read it because I'm moving, but it says something." Hummingbirds are kind of hyper. That was a hummingbird imitation. I don't think I've ever done that before actually - probably never do it again. But they have Christian luggage, Christian lamps, mud flaps, wallpaper, candy bars, and mouth mints. Do I really need Christian mud flaps? I believe some of these things could be taking the Lord's name in vain, let me say why. Because they're taking the name of Jesus and tacking it on something to sell it, you see, and that is taking the name that is above all names, and I think dragging it through the mud a little bit.*

WHY do we do the things that we do? If you know the "why," you will know the reverence factor!



Learn to live reverently - learning to "do" reverence!

Matthew 5:1-10: (NASB) ¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²He opened his mouth and began to teach them, saying,

Each of the following is an action that ultimately finds its basis in reverence:

³Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

One last example of reverent behavior:

Exodus 33:17-23: (NASB) ¹⁷The LORD said to Moses, I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found favor in My sight and I have known you by name. ¹⁸Then Moses said, I pray You, show me Your glory!

For Moses, reverence did not mean timidity; it meant asking in deep faith!

¹⁹And He said, I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion.

God granted the request - for before Him was a man of faith and reverence!

²⁰But He said, you cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live! ²¹Then the LORD said, behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand there on the rock; ²²and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen.



Moses was given as much as he could handle in his frail human state. There was a reward for reverence!



"El Shaddai," (Last verse) Michael Card

El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
El-Elyon na Adonia,
Age to age You're still the same,
By the power of the name.
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,
Erkamka na Adonai,
We will praise and lift You high,
El Shaddai.

Am I living in such a way that God through Christ would sign off on the things that I do, say and think or are we fooling ourselves? Therefore, are we minimizing our holding the name of Christ? Be reverent! Do not take the name of God in vain!

*So, do we take God's name in vain?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*



More on the name of God:

The New Testament focuses more on honoring the name of God rather than misusing it:

Matthew 6:9: (KJV) *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, **Hallowed <37>** be thy name.*

Hallow: Strong's #37 hagiozo (hag-ee-ad'-zo); to make holy,
i.e. (ceremonially) purify or consecrate; (mentally) to venerate:
KJV-- hallow, be holy, sanctify.

Some uses of **Hallow**:

1 Peter 3:15: (KJV) *But **sanctify <37>** the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:*

Revelation 22:11: (KJV) *He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be **holy <37>** still.*

Yahweh/Jehovah: Strong's #3068, the proper name of the one true God

Genesis 2:4: (KJV) *These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the **LORD <3068>** God made the earth and the heavens,*

Genesis 28:16: (KJV) *And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, surely the **LORD <3068>** is in this place; and I knew it not.*



Genesis 32:9: (KJV) *And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the **LORD <3068>** which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:*

Exodus 3:7: (KJV) *And the **LORD <3068>** said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;*

Here is the first revealing of the Nameless One to a man:

Exodus 3:13-15: (KJV) ¹³*And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, the God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? What shall I say unto them?* ¹⁴*And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.* ¹⁵*And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The **LORD <3068>** God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.*

(Source: McClintock and Strong's under "Jehovah") Proper Signification of the Term. — A clue to the real import of this name appears to be designedly furnished in the passage where it is most distinctively ascribed to the God of the Hebrews, <020314> Exodus 3:14: "And God said to Moses, I shall be what I shall be and he said, Thus shalt thou say to the children of Israel, The I SHALL BE has sent me to you" (where the Sept. and later versions attempt to render the spirit of the Hebrew, the Venetian Greek barbarously "I am"). Here the Almighty makes known his unchangeable character, implied in his eternal self-existence, as the ground of confidence for the oppressed Israelites to trust in his promises of deliverance and care respecting them. The same idea is elsewhere alluded to in the Old Test., e.g. <390306> Malachi 3:6, "I am Jehovah; change not;" <281206> Hosea 12:6, "Jehovah is his memento."

Malachi 3:5-7: (KJV) ⁵*And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.* ⁶*For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.* ⁷*Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, wherein shall we return?*

The sacredness of God's name:

Leviticus 24:15-16: (ASV) ¹⁵*And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, whosoever curseth his God shall bear his sin.* ¹⁶*And he that blasphemeth the name of Jehovah, he shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him: as well the sojourner, as the home-born, when he blasphemeth the name of Jehovah, shall be put to death*

God described:

Psalms 102:24-27: (KJV) ²⁴*I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations.* ²⁵*Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.* ²⁶*They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:* ²⁷*But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.*

There are MANY other names for God, for he is Almighty!

Exodus 34:7: (KJV) *Keeping mercy for thousands, **forgiving <5375>** iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.*