

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

“The Third Commandment – No Vain Use of God’s Name”
Exodus 20:7

I. Review.

A. Introductions

1. Law & Gospel and 2. Justification & Sanctification

B. Last week:

1. No other gods and 2. Idolatrous worship.

II. Today’s focus

A. The importance of God’s name.

1. Human names vs. God’s name.

B. The text: Exodus 20:7

1. “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.”
2. Variant reading – “You shall not lift up the name of the Lord your God for n_____.”
3. “Meiosis” – less said while more is intended.

C. Key word is “vain.”

1. Hebrew is v_____ or f_____.
2. Webster’s Dictionary.
 - a. No Weight
3. Note term “Glory” as applied to God. –
 - a. Hebrew means W_____.
4. Today’s commandment concerns how we use God’s name in worship – Romans 12:1
5. The commandment expresses two ideas.
 - a. The negative and the positive.

D. Why is God’s name so important?

1. His name should be treated as a trademark property.
 - a. Gary North; John Calvin.

III. Exposition.

A. The Divine Names.

1. Elohim.
2. Yahweh.
 - a. Distinguished from Adonai.
 1. YHWH – The Hebrew Tetragrammaton

b. Isaiah 43:10-11

c. Note: “to be” is the root in God’s name. Exodus 3:13-15

3. Names of God:

- a. Yahweh – Yireh _____
- b. Yahweh – Rophe _____
- c. Yahweh – Nissi _____
- d. Yahweh – Shalom _____
- e. Yahweh – Tsidkenu _____
- f. El Shaddai _____

a. Michael Horton.

B. Problem of the tongue.

1. James 3:8; Thomas Watson

C. How do we take God’s name in vain?

1. When we speak L_____ and I_____.
 - a. Deuteronomy 28:58; 50:1; Psalm 83:18
2. When we profess God’s name but do not live as if we are A_____ to it. – Titus 1:16; Romans 2:4
3. When we use his name to advance our own A_____.
4. When we use God’s name in I_____ discourse.
 - a. Our language condemns us.
5. When we worship Him with our L_____ and not our H_____.
 - a. Proverbs 23:26; Isaiah 29:13; Ezekiel 33:31
6. When we T_____ over O_____ by invoking God’s name. – Matthew 5:33-37

D. Main Illustration.

1. The Family Name: “Heritage”
2. The Church Name: “Heritage”

IV. Points for Reflection

- A. We must get it through our heads that what we do and say reflects upon God’s name.
- B. Remember the beginning of the Lord’s Prayer.
 1. “_____ be Thy name.”
- C. We have the duty to use God’s name with reverence and to deem it holy.
 1. In thought and meditation – Mal. 3:6; Ps. 8:1,3,4,9
 2. In Word – Col. 3:17; Ps. 105:2,5
 3. In Writing – Ps. 102:18
 4. In holy profession and conversation – I Pe 3:15; Mi 4:5; Phil 1:27
 5. We must follow Jesus’ example – John 17:6
- D. Consider Jesus’ warning – Matthew 7:21-23