

“O How Love I Thy Law!”
The Third Commandment
“In My Father’s Name”
Exodus 20:7

Introduction:

1. The Third Commandment:
 - Is Where We Will Return Tonight:
 - In Our Sunday Night Series:
 - “O How Love I Thy Law!”
 - So - Please Head Back:
 - In Your Bibles With Me:
 - To Exodus 20 - Where:
 - At The Foot Of Mt. Sinai:
 - The Lord Himself Gave This Command To His People!
2. In Exodus 20:7:
 - “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain!”
 - Now - For The Last Couple Of Sundays:
 - We Have Looked At:
 - **Why** This Command Was Given:
 - As Well As **How** This Command Is All-Too-Often Broken!
3. This Command Was Given:
 - Because:
 - The Name & The Names Of God:
 - Are Very Special!
 - In Fact:
 - The Names Of God:
 - Reveal To Us:
 - The Very Nature Of God!
 - And - This Is Especially True:
 - When It Comes To:
 - The Personal Name Of God:
 - Yahweh / Jehovah!
 - And So The Lord Says:
 - “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain!”
4. And Yet - Sadly:
 - That Is Precisely What We Have Done:
 - At Different Times:
 - And - In Different Ways:
 - Throughout Our Lives!
 - We **Have** Taken His Name In Vain!
 - Sometimes:
 - In Our Words!
 - But Other Times - Perhaps Even - Most Of The Time:
 - In Our Walk!
 - When We Claim To **Believe In** His Name:
 - And Yet - Fail To **Live For** His Name!
 - Because:
 - How You Treat The Name Of The Lord:
 - Will Reveal What You Think:
 - About The Nature Of The Lord!
 - And So The Lord Says To Us Again:
 - “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain!”
5. So - Not Only Is This Command:
 - Profitable For Doctrine:
 - By Telling Us Something:
 - About God & His Name!

- It Is Also:
 - Profitable For Reproof:
 - By Telling Us Something:
 - About Ourselves & Our Sin!
- But - There Is Something More:
 - For Us In This Commandment As Well!
 - Because It Is Also Profitable:
 - For Correction:
 - As We Are Reminded From 2 Timothy 3:16!
 - It Is Profitable For Correction:
 - By Once Again - Pointing Us In The Direction Of The Only One:
 - Who Can Help Us With Our Failure:
 - To Keep The Commandments Of God!

6. That Is - It Should Point Us:
- To The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - Who - In All The Ways We Have Failed To Honor:
 - God And His Name:
 - He Came To Fulfill!
 - And The Reason For This:
 - Is Because Jesus Actually:
 - **Came** In The **Name** Of The Lord!
 - So - Let's Turn Now To The New Testament - To The Gospel Of John:
 - Where Jesus Himself Says This In John 5:43 - "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive!"
 - Jesus Christ:
 - Came In The Name Of His Father!
 - And Then - He Lived His Entire Life:
 - For The Glory:
 - Of His Name!
 - He Did Not:
 - Ever - Take The Name Of The Lord:
 - His God - In Vain!

7. And - Really:
- What Greater Honor Is It:
 - Than To Take Another's Name:
 - For Yourself?
 - **IE:** This Is What Many Parents Chose To Do When They Have A Child, Isn't It? They Name Their Child After Someone That Was Special To Them! My Parents Did That With Me! Maybe Not My First Name, But I Was Given My Middle Name In Honor Of My Grandfather, Anthony J. Kriekaard! But In This Case, I Didn't Have A Choice! To Have His Name **Is** An Honor, But It Is Not An Honor That I Chose To Give!
 - **IE:** You See - It's Even More Special - When You Take Someone's Name Upon Yourself! When My Wife And I Were Married, She Took My Last Name As Her Own! And This Was Her Choice! And, Even After Nearly 25 Years Of Marriage, I Am Still Moved When I Think Of The Honor She Expressed To Me When She Did!

8. There Is Great Honor:
- In Taking The Name Of Someone Else:
 - For Yourself!
 - And - This Is How Jesus:
 - Honored His Father!
 - Though God Himself:
 - Yet - Jesus Came:
 - In His Father's Name!
 - And - For The Rest Of Our Time Tonight, We Are Going To Look At What This Means!
 - First - It Means That Jesus Came:

1. With A Commission From His Father!

- To **Come** In Someone's Name:
 - Means - That You Were **Sent**:
 - In Someone's Name!
 - **IE**: Its Like When An Ambassador Is Sent To Another Country! Not Only Do They Represent Their Country, They Also Represent The Leader Of That Country! In Our Case, They Represent The President Of The United States! And So - When The Ambassador Acts In His Or Her Official Capacity, They Do So In The "Name" Of The President!
 - And This Is Even More True:
 - Of Jesus!
 - When He Came In His Father's Name:
 - He Came With A Special Commission From His Father:
 - As His Ambassador To This World & To Us!
 - And With It, He Came With:
- The Authority Of The Lord!
 - **IE**: Just Like An Official Ambassador Is Given Authority From The President To Act In His Name:
 - Jesus Was Given The Authority Of His Father:
 - To Fulfill **His** Purpose:
 - And - To Accomplish **His** Will:
 - At His Coming!
 - This Is What Jesus Said:
 - In John 6:38-40 - "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. / And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. / And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day!"
 - Jesus Was Faithful:
 - When He Came In The Name:
 - And With The Authority:
 - Of His Father - The Lord!
 - And - He Also Came With:
 - The Approval Of The Lord!
 - We Find This In John 8:25-30:
 - "Then said they unto him, Who art thou? And Jesus saith unto them, Even the same that I said unto you from the beginning. / 26 I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him. / 27 They understood not that he spake to them of the Father. / 28 Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am he, and that I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. / 29 And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. / 30 As he spake these words, many believed on him!"
 - Jesus Said That He:
 - Always Did - "Those Things That Pleased" His Father!
 - But - This Was Not Only:
 - The Witness Of Jesus!
 - It Was The Witness Of The Father Himself!
 - When Jesus Was Baptized In The Jordan River:
 - By John The Baptist:
 - His Father Was There! He Saw It:
 - And Said - With - "A Voice From Heaven" - "This Is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleased!" (Matthew 3:17)
 - And Then - When Jesus Was Transfigured:
 - Before His Disciples:
 - His Father Again Was There!
 - And Said - From "A Bright Cloud" That "Overshadowed Them" - "This Is My Beloved Son, In Whom I Am Well Pleased; Hear Ye Him!" (Matthew 17:5)
 - So We See That:
 - When Jesus Came:

- In The Name Of The Lord - His Father:
 - He Honored His Name:
 - By Being Faithful To The Commission He Was Given!
- So - Remember:
 - In All The Ways You Have Failed:
 - To Honor God & His Name:
 - Jesus Came To Fulfill!
 - So - Trust In Him!
- Jesus Came In His Father's Name!
 - This Also Means That He Came:

2. ***With A Commitment To His Father!***

- We Find Jesus' Commitment:
 - To The Name Of The Lord:
 - In Every Aspect Of His Life!
 - We've Already Seen His Commitment:
 - To The Will Of His Father:
 - In John 8!
 - But He Was Also Committed:
 - To The Works:
 - Of His Father!
 - Which We See In:
 - John 10:24-25 - When Jesus Was In The Temple - "Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. / Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me!"
 - All Of The Works Jesus Did:
 - He Did In The Name Of His Father:
 - The Lord!
 - He Honored The Name:
 - Of The Lord!
 - Jesus Was Also Committed:
 - To The Witness:
 - Of His Father!
 - Which We See In:
 - John 17 - When Jesus Was Offering His High-Priestly Prayer To His Father - And In 17:6 - Jesus Says - "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word!"
 - All Throughout His Life:
 - Jesus "Manifested" And Gave Witness To:
 - The Name Of His Father:
 - The Lord!
 - He Honored The Name:
 - Of The Lord!
 - And Then - We Can Also See:
 - That Jesus Was Committed:
 - To The Wonder:
 - Of His Father!
 - In John 12:28 - We Hear The Plea Of Jesus:
 - "Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again!"
 - Jesus Wanted The Name:
 - Of His Father - The Name Of The Lord:
 - To Be Glorified:
 - In All Of His Life:
 - And Even Through His Death!
 - This Is What Jesus Meant:
 - When He Said:

- "I Am Come In My Father's Name!" (John 5:43)
 - He Came:
 - With A Commitment To His Father!
- And That Is Why We Can:
 - Turn To & Trust In Jesus!
 - Because - In All The Ways You Have Failed:
 - To Honor God & His Name:
 - Jesus Came To Fulfill!
- Jesus Came In His Father's Name!
 - This Also Means That He Even Came:

3. *With A Character Like His Father!*

- **IE:** A Lot Of Children - When They Are Young - Want To Be Just Like Their Parents! Of Course, That Sentiment Usually Changes As They Get Older! But - When A Child Chooses To Follow In His / Her Parent's Footsteps, It Really Is A Great Honor! Even As The Old Adage Goes - "Imitation Is The Best Form Of Flattery!"
 - But - When Jesus Came In His Father's Name:
 - He Came:
 - Not Only With The Same Character:
 - But In The Same Nature:
 - As God Himself!
 - In John 10:27-30 - Jesus Said:
 - "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: / And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. / My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. / I and my Father are one!"
 - One In Nature:
 - One In Character - And:
 - One In Purpose!
 - What Greater Honor Could Jesus Have Given:
 - When He Came In His Father's Name!

Conclusion:

1. Jesus Christ Never Took:
 - The Lord's Name In Vain!
 - Not In His Words!
 - Not In His Walk!
 - Not In His Worship!
2. In All The Ways:
 - We Have Failed:
 - To Honor God & His Name:
 - Jesus Came & Fulfilled!
3. And That Is Why:
 - Now - We Should:
 - Not Only Receive:
 - The Witness Of Jesus:
 - About The Name:
 - Of God The Father!
 - But - We Should:
 - Also Receive:
 - The Witness Of The Father:
 - About The Name:
 - Of God The Son!
 - 4. Because - If You Remember:
 - What Happened Just A Week:
 - Before The Resurrection Of Jesus:
 - On That Sunday Known As:
 - "Palm Sunday!"
 - What Did The People Say:
 - And Shout - As Jesus Was Making His Way:

- To Jerusalem?
- In John 12:13 - They All - “Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord!”
- 5. The Words They Used:
 - Come From Psalm 118:25-26:
 - Which Is A Prophecy & A Testimony:
 - About The Messiah:
 - Who Was To Come!
 - And It Is Jesus:
 - Who Came - Just As They Said!
 - He Came “In The Name Of The Lord!”
- 6. And So - To Honor:
 - The Name Of The Lord:
 - We Need To Honor & Bless:
 - The One Who Came:
 - ***In*** The Name Of The Lord!
 - Jesus Christ:
 - ***The*** Lord!
- 7. Next Sunday:
 - We Will Look At:
 - What The Third Commandment:
 - Can Tell Us:
 - About ***Living*** For The Lord:
 - As Well!
 - Because - As Christ:
 - Came In The Name Of His Father:
 - So, Now, Are We:
 - To Go In The Name:
 - Of The Son!

* Are You Trusting In Jesus Today?

* He Is The Only One Who Has Fulfilled All The Ways We Have Failed To Honor God & His Name!

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