

HOLY NAME, HOLY DAY

SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 5:11-15

Holy Name

What's in a name?

- It is a means by which we introduce ourselves and even what we do.
- God's name on the other hand is different and should be treated with reverence.
- Deuteronomy 5:11 says ***You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not ^[g]leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.***
- Jesus Himself tells us in Mathew 6:9 that God's name is holy
- Furthermore in Acts 4 it says ***Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.***
- These verses simply tell us that God's name should not be taken lightly for there is power in even just His name.
- God has so many names in the Bible and all of these names represent who God is and what He can do. But whatever name we know about Him, God says "I AM". This is the name that He introduced Himself to Moses and to the people of the Old Testament.
- We are commanded not to take the name of God in vain.
- What does "in vain" mean? In Hebrew it means nothingness, emptiness and vanity. It also means falsehood or lying ; the term also designates anything which is insubstantial, unreal or worthless.

How do we profane the name of God?

1. By using the name of God lightly and carelessly.
 2. By rash swearing, mentioning the name of Go, or any of His attributes, in the form of an oath, without any just occasion for it, to no good purpose or to no good.
 3. By covenant-breaking
 4. By not living out our faith, becoming hypocrites – proclaiming to be followers of Christ and yet not living up to what is expected of us
- We are all guilty of these at one time or another. The saddest though is when we proclaim to be followers and yet live lives not worthy of our Savior Jesus Christ.
 - If we profess to be His followers, then our lives should mirror Christ to the bystanders. But if we profess with our mouths and yet continue to sin, then we are not giving reverence to the name of Jesus Christ.
 - If we are called by the name of "Christians" or better as "Disciples of Jesus" should we not think, talk and act as Jesus?
 - It is so much easier to continue to live in our comfort zones, but God tells us that our ways are not His ways – we have to learn to move out of our comfort zones and learn to surrender and trust in God's will for our lives so that His glory may be reflected in the way we live.
 - Let us always bear in mind Galatians 2:20
I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live ,but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body,I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

When we accepted Christ as Lord and Savior of our lives, we lost our identity. Today as followers of Christ we find our identity in Him.

Holy Day

- God commanded us to work six days and rest on the seventh.
- Instead we should use that day to come together and worship Him, to feast and fellowship with Him.
- Resting on the Sabbath day is in itself a test of faith.
- Many believe that once they have gone to church, they can go back to doing what they want. But God did not tell us to fellowship for half a day, He told us to rest for one day.
- In Exodus 16, we see the story of how God provided manna for the Israelites while they were in the desert. But despite God's provisions, the Israelites were guilty of 2 sins:
 - The Sin of Unbelief. Many did not believe that God would provide for their daily needs. So they tried to stock up for the next day, disobeying God's command to just gather enough for one day.
 - The Sin of Presumption. God commanded that on the 6th day they gather enough for 2 days, because the Sabbath was a day of rest. Others did not obey thinking that since God had provided for 6 days, He would again provide for the second.
 - A lot of times, we like the Israelites are guilty of the sin of unbelief or of being presumptuous. We have to obey God's commands to the letter if we want to experience His blessing and His provision in our life.
 - We have to trust and believe in God's faithfulness and love. . . We often forget how loving and how gracious our Father is and would rather rely on our own capabilities.
 - God wants us to obey – this is His love language. This is how He becomes pleased with us





OBSERVATION:

Study the passage. Who are the characters in the passage? What details stand out to you the most? You can also re-write the passage in your own words to make it more personal.

1. Read the bible verses cited above. Which bible verse spoke to you the most?
2. What are your insights and new learning about God's name? about the Sabbath?
3. Paraphrase Deuteronomy 5: 11 so that the verse may have a personal meaning to you.

APPLICATION:

Patiently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage's lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

	Personal: How are you guilty of using the name of God in vain? Do you have any broken promises? Do people around you see that your are a follower of Christ?
	Family: How does your family guilty of proclaiming to be followers of Christ but not living out His commandments in your life? How does your family honor the Holy Day?
	Discipleship: Do the people around you see Jesus in your life? Are you a follower of Christ? A disciple? Are you able to stand up and be a follower of Jesus inspite of and despite of possible discrimination?
	Church/ Ministry: Is God prompting you to work in His ministry? How can you best be a witness of God's grace and love? How do intend to show that you are a follower of Jesus? (Be specific)

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.