

“WHAT’S IN A NAME?”

The Sinai Code, Part 3

July 11th, 2010

Exodus 20:7 (NIV) "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name."

Exodus 20:7 (KJ) "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."

This command is more than just not using God’s name in a derogative way

Misusing God’s name means associating God’s name with something God is not associated with

We misuse God’s name when leverage the name of God to accomplish something God has nothing to do with, i.e. to accomplish what you want

We look for loopholes in God’s law and try play God against Himself

Throughout history all kinds of things have been done in God’s name that had nothing to do with God

Luke 19:45-46 (NIV) "Then Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were selling. 'It is written,' He said to them, "My house will be a house of prayer"; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"

Mark 7:10-13 (NIV) "For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother,'... But you say that if a man says to his father or mother: 'Whatever help you might otherwise have received from me is Corban' (that is, a gift devoted to God), then you no longer let him do anything for his father or mother. Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that."

They had come up with religious practices that allowed them to bypass the clear teachings of God so they could do what they wanted to do

Watch having “religion” without a “Relationship” with Christ

1 John 1:9 (NCV) "But if we confess our sins, He will forgive our sins, because we can trust God to do what is right. He will cleanse us from all the wrongs we have done."

1 John 1:9 is often used so I can have my sin & my forgiveness too

God offers forgiveness for those turning away from sin

God says, “Don’t use My name in anything other than what I’m committed to”

Exodus 20:7 (NIV) "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name."

God won’t put up with anybody misusing and abusing His name

If you get in the habit of dodging the law of God in the name of God, ultimately you will
miss God

The obvious will of God is to get out of sin, break the habit,
stay away from that

You can spend your whole life and never have a Relationship with God while
believing in God your entire life

This commandment reminds us not to be a "Religious" community

If you misuse the name of God, the tragedy is you missed the very thing He wants for you the
most – that you would know Him intimately

What games are you playing with God?

Will you quit pretending because you don't want to miss God?

My Next Step Today Is:

- I will not misuse God's name for my own selfish and sinful purposes
- My prayer today, "God help me not to miss you by being religious instead of knowing You"
- I will memorize Exodus 20:7
- I plan to attend the "Minute to Win It" Fellowship Night Sat, July 17th
- I am interested in being baptized _____ Sun, July 18th or _____ Sun, Aug 15th