

10...THE COUNTDOWN

What's In A Name

Exodus 20:2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” (NIV)

Exodus 20:7 “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.” (NIV)

3 Major Ways We Misuse The Lord's Name

1. We misuse God's name with our speech

Exodus 20:7 “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain,” (NKJV)

2. We misuse God's name for our benefit

Ezekiel 13:5-7 “O evil prophets, what have you ever done to strengthen the walls of Israel against her enemies - by strengthening Israel in the Lord? ⁶ Instead you have lied when you said, 'My message is from God!' God did not send you. And yet you expect him to fulfill your prophecies. ⁷ Can you deny that you have claimed to see 'visions' you never saw, and that you have said, 'This message is from God,' when I never spoke to you at all?” (TLB)

3. We misuse God's name with our lifestyle

1 Peter 4:16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. (NIV)

1 Peter 2:12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (NIV)

Romans 2:19-24 You are so sure of the way to God that you could point it out to a blind man. You think of yourselves as beacon lights, directing men who are lost in darkness to God. ²⁰ You think that you can guide the simple and teach even children the affairs of God, for you really know his laws, which are full of all knowledge and truth. ²¹ Yes, you teach others - then why don't you teach yourselves? You tell others not to steal - do you steal? ²² You say it is wrong to commit adultery - do you do it? You say "Don't pray to idols" and then make money your god instead. ²³ You are so proud of knowing God's laws, but you dishonor him by breaking them. ²⁴ No wonder the Scriptures say that the world speaks evil of God because of you. (TLB)

Exodus 20:7 “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.” (NIV)

CG Questions

1. Why do people misuse God’s name when they are angry, frustrated or excited?
2. Why do people leverage God’s name for their own benefit and purposes?
3. How do people misuse the name of the Lord with their lifestyle?
4. Why is it important for us to strive to live our lives for Christ?
5. Why shouldn’t we misuse the name of the Lord?