

## THE POWER OF HIS NAME

*"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 (NIV)

### ❖ What's In a Name?

1. A name reflects REPUTATION and CHARACTER.

*A good name is more desirable than great riches.*

Proverbs 22:1 (NIV)

2. A name represents AUTHORITY.
3. A name recognizes OWNERSHIP.

### ❖ Ways We Can Misuse and Abuse God's Name

1. Using God's Name to INSULT.

*"And you shall not swear by my name falsely, and profane the name of your God; I am Jehovah."*

Leviticus 19:12 (ASV)

2. Using God's Name to INDULGE.

*"Moses said, 'respect your father and mother,' ...<sup>11</sup> But you weasel out of that by saying that it is perfectly acceptable to say to your father and mother, 'the money I owed you I gave as a gift to God,' <sup>12</sup> thus relieving yourselves from your obligation to your parents. <sup>13</sup> You scratch out God's Word and scrawl a whim in its place. You do a lot of things like that."*

Mark 7:10-13 (MSG)

3. Using God's Name to INTIMIDATE.

*"But if the prophet says something I did not tell him to say as though he were speaking for me, or if a prophet speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet must be killed."*

Deuteronomy 18:20 (NCV)

4. Using God's Name to IMPRESS.

*They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him.*

Titus 1:16 (NIV)

5. Using God's Name IMPULSIVELY.

*"These people worship me with their lips... but their hearts are far from me."*

Isaiah 29:13 (GW)

❖ Using God's Name In the Proper Way

*Give to the Lord the glory due His name.*

Psalm 29:2 (GW)

1. We were created to WORSHIP His name.

*Jesus answered, "You must worship the Lord your God and serve Him only."*

Luke 4:8 (NCV)

*At the name of Jesus every knee should bow...*

Philippians 2:10 (NIV)

2. We are privileged to CALL UPON His name.

*At that time men began to call on the name of the Lord.*

Genesis 4:26 (RSV)

3. We are offered an opportunity to BELIEVE ON His name.

*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life...*

John 3:36 (GW)

*I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

1 John 5:13 (NIV)

4. We were adopted to TAKE ON His name.

*"If my people, who are called by my name..."*

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

*The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.*

Acts 11:26 (NIV)

5. We are called upon to MINISTER IN His name.

*For the Lord your God has chosen them out of all your tribes to stand and minister in the Lord's name always.*

Deuteronomy 18:5 (NIV)

*"...anyone who gives a cup of water in my name because you belong to Me will certainly not lose his reward."*

Mark 9:41 (NIV)

6. We are expected to REPRESENT and PROTECT His Name.

*Whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord.*

Colossians 3:17 (NIV)

❖ Closing Truth: To really KNOW Him is to LOVE and RESPECT His name.

*"For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of..."*

Luke 6:45 (TEV)