

You Shall Not Take the Name of the Lord Your God in Vain

Dr. Rodney Navey

Exodus 20:7

Introduction: *“The Name’ is a figure of speech called ‘synecdoche’ which means ‘a part of the whole’. . . The name of the Lord your God refers to God Himself, to very God” (Searle, And Then There Were Nine, 50-51).*

You shall have no other gods before Me (worship the right God).

You shall not make for yourself a carved image (worship God in the right way).

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain (show respect for God).

Background: How we talk to and about God reveals our true heart for Him.

In vain: “empty of value, worthless”

1. How we Talk to Him

Humility	Pride
Reverence	Irreverence
Readiness	Laziness
Enjoyment	Obligation
Gratitude	Entitlement

You are talking to a Father who loves you, a King who protects you, God who created you to know Him, enjoy Him, and glorify Him!

2. How we Talk about Him

Profanity	Respect
Praise for self	Praise for God
Flippantly	Seriously
Hypocrisy	Accuracy
Blasphemy	Worship

Conclusion: How do you treat God?

Hollow – you have no respect for Him

Hallow – you have all the respect in the world for Him