

Lesson 176: Walking With Jesus - Part 8 (Be careful how you use God's name)

Scripture: Exodus 3-4, Colossians 1:15-23

Verse: Colossians 1:17 "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

God's third Commandment *instructs* us to NEVER misuse His name. God's name is Holy. That means His Name is set apart from ordinary names of created things. And His name is Glorious. That means His name has great significance, power, importance, depth, gravity, weightiness (etc). God wants us to understand and respect the fact that ANY time we talk to Him or about Him, we are speaking to or of the One True God who has always been and always will be! He is the only One with the Power to Save, and with the Love for us to do so.

Remember the story of Moses? God helped Moses to UNDERSTAND Him better when He called Himself 'I AM'...

It happened when Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the middle of a bush. Moses stared in amazement. Though the bush was engulfed in flames, it didn't burn up. "This is amazing," Moses said to himself. "Why isn't that bush burning up? I must go see it."

God spoke to Moses by name when he got near the bush. He said, "Moses do not come any closer. Take off your sandals, for you are standing on holy ground. I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When Moses heard this, he covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD told him, "I have seen how the king of Egypt is hurting and mistreating my people, and have heard the cries of distress of my people who have been enslaved by the Egyptians. I have come down to rescue My people and lead them to the Promised Land."

But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?" God answered, "**I will be with you.**" But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: **I AM has sent me to you.** MY NAME is eternal (INFINITE). It is to be remembered for all generations."

God wants us to understand and respect that ANY time we talk to Him or about Him, we are speaking to or of the One True God who has always been and always will be! That is why He inspired Paul to write of His powerful and Glorious name often. So, the New Testament affirms who God is, and Jesus is the embodiment of ALL of God's Names!

The third commandment instructs us that. We **should NEVER take His name lightly!**