

# What's the **BIG DEAL** with Taking **GOD'S** Name in **VAIN?**



One of the first responsibilities new parents have is to \_\_\_\_\_ their child; we don't name ourselves. By contrast, no one ever named God; his name is chosen and \_\_\_\_\_.

## Much More Than a Name

- At the burning bush, God revealed his name to Moses (Exo 3:13-15).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ literally means, "I am who I am" or "I will be who I will be."
  - "LORD" speaks to God's self-existence, self-sufficiency, and supreme sovereignty.
- We quickly discover that Yahweh is more than just a name; it is God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The name appears almost 7,000 times throughout the Old Testament.
  - It is a name, according to the Revealer, that is to be treated as \_\_\_\_\_ (Exo 20:7a). Literally, "You shall not lift up the name of the LORD your God for \_\_\_\_\_."
- Our Creator's name has deep spiritual significance. To treat it like something worthless is \_\_\_\_\_—treating something sacred as common (Lev 22:15-16; Acts 24:6).
  - "...for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain" (Exo 20:7b).
  - Example: "...the Israelite woman's son blasphemed the Name, and cursed..." (Lev 24:10-16).
- When God says that we will be held accountable, we should take him at his word! (Mal 2:1-2)

## God-Breathed Input for Christians

- The same principle of honor for God can be found throughout the New Testament:
  - "To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be \_\_\_\_\_ and glory forever and ever" (1 Tim 1:17).
  - "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive \_\_\_\_\_ and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created" (Rev 4:11).
  - " \_\_\_\_\_ and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen" (Rev 7:12).
- Most certainly there are times when saying or singing "O my God" is appropriate and honorable.
- "Let your speech always be gracious, \_\_\_\_\_ with salt..." (Col 4:5-6; Matt 5:13).
  - "God" is not a throw-away, empty, frivolous word to be mindlessly used whenever I'm surprised, excited, amazed, shocked, or looking to accentuate something like everyone else.
  - "To him be \_\_\_\_\_..." (1 Tim 6:15-16) in the way we talk and the way we live.

