

WORD #3: Bearing God's Name (Exod. 20:7)

Names

God's personal name

Hinting at God's sheer bigness

Shorthand for everything God promised to be and do
(eg. Exod. 6:6-8)

How the Ten Words begin

...so when we arrive at verse 7 (WORD #3)

But what is the commandment actually about?

Swearing?

...but...

"You shall not take (*Hebrew: nasa = to lift/bear/carry*) the name of the Lord your God in vain..." (ESV)

Is there anything in the wider context of Exodus that will help me understand?

Exodus 28:9-12, 29, 36-37

"You will be for me a kingdom of priests" (Exod. 19:6, cf. Numbers 6:27)

This is not first a command about your v_____ but i_____.

How can we live this out?

1. Don't empty God's name with our lips

- Don't use God's name carelessly
- Don't (mis)use it to justify ourselves
- Don't (mis)use it to try to control God

2. Don't empty God's name with our lives

Speaking holy words while living hollow lives

The tragedy

Ten Words to live by

More than a name-bearer

→ so today...