

**Articles and Sermons :: Here's a conversation I had with a "Christian" regarding Blasphemy****Here's a conversation I had with a "Christian" regarding Blasphemy, on: 2012/4/29 13:00**

Devout Christian: - "After reading your article on the 3rd Commandment on your blog, I have this question"

Is it not a bit ridiculous that if someone, say, stubs their toe and mutters "Christ" or really shocked and says "Oh God", they will be punished? Doesn't that make God sound very petty? Punishing people for harmless actions?

THIS IS FROM A "DEVOUT CHRISTIAN"

Here was my response -

Well my friend, The lost may argue that they don't consider casually saying "God", "Christ" to be blasphemy. In fact, the phrase "omigod" is so embedded in the vocabulary of youth today that it is shortened to "OMG" for ease in text messaging. It is just a meaningless word to them. In other words, they don't esteem the name of God. The Hebrew word used for "vain" means nothingness, emptiness, vanity. According to John F. Walvoord, to misuse God's name means literally, "to lift it up to or attach to emptiness." The Third Commandment forbids using God's name flippantly or in profanity. So using the Lord's name lightly or without thinking is the very essence of taking it "in vain" So if you think attaching God's name to nothingness and emptiness is harmless then I would suggest that you really examine your relationship with God. I will keep you in my prayers.

His question and obvious believe that it is Harmless to take God's name in vain ---IS THE VERY ESSENCE OF WHY I AM EMBARRASSED TO BE PART OF TODAY'S CHURCH.....Those feelings from a self proclaimed "Christian" ARE WHY I KNOW TODAY'S CHURCH ISN'T PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT BUT AN EMBARRASSMENT TO HIM WHO IS HOLY AND JUST.

**Re: Here's a conversation I had with a "Christian" regarding Blasphemy - posted by DoUPray2, on: 2012/4/29 13:33**

how do you know this person is a "devout Christian?"

from your blog, i read his response and followed him to his blog (which you could have done too) and saw nothing Christian at all about his blog. from looking at all the websites that he cites, i think he is agnostic or atheist (i.e. evil-bible.com and infidels.org). so no embarrassment necessary!

PS: He would probably be very offended that you called him devout.

**Re: , on: 2012/4/29 13:35**

My friend... why do you think I said what I said.. God shows NO partiality ... so there is NO difference between this self proclaimed individual and the "Christian" that sits in a lifeboat singing Hymns to God while sinners are drowning in the icy waters of this world.

**Re: Here's a conversation I had with a "Christian" regarding Blasphemy - posted by DEADn (), on: 2012/4/29 14:33**

I have had some who said they were christians tell me that sometimes you just have to cuss in order to get a point across. In natural it would seem that sometimes the agreement would be there but that means using earthly weapons to fight a spiritual warfare.

**Re: Here's a conversation I had with a "Christian" regarding Blasphemy - posted by Lovefirst (), on: 2012/4/29 15:23**

While reading this it is obvious we are all in a mess truly. God and Lord are not the names of God and in fact many use god and lord to refer to false gods.

I agree though that noone has a fear for God anymore, most don't know His name. Can't really attack His name if you do n't know it though, but the wickedness of the heart seems to be at it's peak. If the name of God where to be used more b y the people who claim to love Him then it would be blasphemed.

You think God is embarrassed? Shame on you friend, I know His heart is broken because we have been lead astray and don't even know it.

**Re: , on: 2012/4/29 15:31**

"While reading this it is obvious we are all in a mess truly. God and Lord are not the names of God and in fact many use e god and lord to refer to false gods."

What name should we use then?

**Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2012/4/29 15:38**

I am with you Jim, because He is my Lord and my God.

I can't help what others do but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.

**Re: , on: 2012/4/29 15:55**

No my friend, I don't think God is embarrassed that's not what I said ... I stated that "IT is an embarrassment to a Holy a nd Just God."

**Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2012/4/29 16:14**

Typically these questions are leading towards some design in setting forth a name prequalified as being worthy of being used towards God; i.e. Jehovah, Yahweh, YHWH, Yeshua, etc. We have this passages in Hebrews 1:1

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, (Heb. 1:1)

Here God is English for the Greek Theos (&#920;&#949;&#8056;&#957;). It is used about 1300 times in the NT and som e 3000 times in the LXX (Greek Old Testament).

In Exodus 20:3 the LXX uses theos (theoi). Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Theos is translated from the Hebr ew word elohiyim (&#1488;&#1500;&#1492;&#1497;&#1501;). The iym denotes plural. This is a general name for God or gods from 'el' ( &#1488;&#1463;&#1497;&#1460;&#1500; (Strongs H352).

When we come to the prohibition of using God's name in vain we have the specific name YHWH (Tetragrammaton):

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD (YHWH) thy God (Elohyim) in vain; for the LORD (YHWH) will not hold him g uiltless that taketh his name in vain.

In the KJV all caps for LORD in the OT is the Tetragrammaton (YHWH). You will notice no vowels. Because it is not kno wn how to pronounce this word and in an attempt to reverence the name the word 'Hashem' (shem) is often used by Je ws in place of YHWH.

So the use of the word God is simply a translation of Theos and Elohyim respectively. To believers there is but one God so we associate the name God with the one true God. We associate the name God as identifying the Creator.

For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as there are many gods and many lords), yet for us there is 'one God' (&#949;&#7991;&#962; &#920;&#949;&#8056;&#962;), the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live. (1 Cor 8:5, 6 emph. added)

**Re: - posted by Lovefirst (), on: 2012/4/29 16:16**

The commandment is do not take the NAME of the Lord in vain. Yes, He is our Lord and our God, but that isn't His name

Also, what if it is referring to saying you are taking His name in reference to saying you are His child but you actually are not? Example would be saying you are a Christian when in fact you have never been.

**Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2012/4/29 16:30**

Quote:

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The commandment is do not take the NAME of the Lord in vain. Yes, He is our Lord and our God, but that isn't His name.  
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I'm not sure I would concur with this. God and Lord are certainly attributes, but we have this passage from Psalm 22 quoted by Jesus:

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? (Psalm 22:1)

Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? Clearly Jesus was calling out to a person and not just to an attribute. He is using 'Eli' in the singular, which would come over as God in English.

**Re: - posted by Lovefirst (), on: 2012/4/29 16:48**

Awesome! and very true. May I ask this one thing? Did Jesus ever refer to His Father as Eli before this in the Gospels?

**Re: - posted by roadsign (), on: 2012/4/29 17:01**

What does it mean to take a name? Consider a wife who takes a man's name in a marriage covenant. what does taking that name imply? How might having that name for herself become "in vain"?

How might God's chosen people, Israel, have taken his name in vain? In other words, how might they have called themselves by his name, as his people, and it become in vain - that is, of no use?

What about today? Who are the ones who take God's name in vain? Is it not all professing CHRIST-ians who are not actually his through the new covenant relationship. Their self designated label in vain. They have a form of godliness but not its power. They do not abide by the first two commandments: love God with all their heart, mind, and strength but have put their trust elsewhere: idols. Christ is not their spiritual "husband" and thus they do not enjoy the privileges associated with that relationship: the Spirit, protection, provision, etc.

Diane

**Re: , on: 2012/4/29 17:15**

1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

Also the original track of the first post should be kept in mind.

Edit Add... i notice alot of christian using words like HolyCrap and "that Sucks"

I will sometimes ask what the first looks like and then also ask if they understand the original wording of sucks

**Re: - posted by RobertW (), on: 2012/4/29 17:57**

Quote:

-----Lovefirst's: May I ask this one thing? Did Jesus ever refer to His Father as Eli before this in the Gospels?  
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The more common term given that the lingua franca of the times was Greek, was Theos (Θεός).

But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God (Θεός). (Matthew 4:4)

This is the first use of Theos by Christ in Matthew. We have another verse where the use of Theos (God) as His Father.

Jesus said unto them, If God (Theos) were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God (Theos); neither came I of myself, but he sent me. (John 8:47)

Hope that helps. :-)

**Re: - posted by Lovefirst (), on: 2012/4/29 18:03**

Quote:

----- The more common term given that the lingua franca of the times was Greek, was Theos (Θεός).

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Jesus said unto them, If God (Theos) were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God (Theos); neither came I of myself, but he sent me. (John 8:47)

Hope that helps. :-)  
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This is very helpful indeed. Thanks!