



The 10 Commandments
Name Above All Names
The Third Commandment

So what's in a name? Each of us have one—one that we did not get to choose. God however, chose His own name, a name that would reveal His love and character. A name that we are to consider holy and NEVER forget.

A. What is God's Name? Exodus 3:14-15

Yahweh: The name that God revealed was his personal name Yahweh, sometimes called the tetragrammaton because in Hebrew it consists of four letters: **YHWH**. Literally, God's name means **"I am who I am,"** or "I will be who I will be." It speaks of God's self-existence, self-sufficiency, and supreme sovereignty.

B Meeting the I AM [LORD]

Hos 12:3-6; Gen 32:22-32; Gospel of John

1. **Wrestling with God:** Even before God had revealed His name He was revealing Himself to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God spoke to Jacob many times and Hosea reveals that it was the "name-to-be-remembered" name of God, Yahweh speaking.
 - a. **Jacob and God face to face:** *Gen 32:22-32* God gives Jacob (his name means 'heel grabber' or 'deceiver') a new name 'Israel,' which means 'God strives' or 'God fights for.' **For most of Jacob's life God had to fight with him—now God will fight for him.** Jacob names the place "Penuel," the face of God.
 2. **Wrestling with Yeshuah:** [*John 8:56-59*] Yeshuah [Jesus] wrestled with the Pharisees and Jewish leaders—and in general, the Jewish people. He came to fulfill the law and the prophets and give them a new heart and place His Spirit within them. Jesus reveals Himself as the great 'I AM' [YHWH] several times in the Gospel of John!
 - a. I am the bread of life 6:35
 - b. I am the light of the world 8:12
 - c. I am the door to the sheep 10:7, 9
 - d. I am the good shepherd 10:11
 - e. I am the Son of God 10:36
 - f. I am the resurrection 11:25
 - g. I am the way, truth and the life 14:6
 - h. I am He 18:5-6 The soldiers fall to the ground!

Are you wrestling with God? Have you made peace with Him? He is calling you today! "For I am the LORD who heals you." *Ex 15:26*

C. His Name is Wonderful—Only Use it To Glorify God

1. **In prayer:** *Matt 6:9* "Hallowed by thy name.."
2. **In whatever we do:** *Col 3:17* "Do all...in the name of Jesus"
3. **When we call on His name:** *Acts 4:12; Rom 10:13; 1 Joh 5:13*
4. **When we are sanctified** *1 Cor 6:11*

Why do people swear using God's name in vain? It tell us something about the human condition. It proves the existence of God. Like everything else people say, cursing comes from the heart. When non-Christians use God's name—even in vain—it shows that deep down they know there really is a God. Their rage is direct rebellion against his honor.

Exodus 20:1-7 (NKJV)

(Intro) :1 And God spoke all these words, saying: :2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

(1) :3 "You shall have no other gods before Me.

(2) :4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; :5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, :6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

(3) :7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

Hosea 12:3-6

:3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and in his strength he struggled with God.

:4 Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him. He found Him in Bethel, and there He spoke to us—

:5 That is, the LORD God of hosts. The LORD is His memorable name.

:6 So you, by the help of your God, return; Observe mercy and justice, and wait on your God continually.

John 8:56-59

:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

:57 Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"

:58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I AM.**"

:59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him;