

religious feelings of our people through the ages since. His prayer occupied itself with the glory of God and it would be unthinkable that the Name would be disgraced.

With his disciples, Jesus paid great respect for the Divine name. As mentioned he prayed for its hallowing and he demonstrated its quality in a life of holiness. In his private devotion he said..."I have manifested thy name..."(John 17:6). By this he meant he had shown what God was like and by his identification with the heavenly Father he revealed to his followers how God could be known. His people would be able to bear His name and be known throughout the world as God's own.

The Third Command: Our Present Involvement

However we must note that the name of God does not just fall of us. We take it up. No, we are not to look at it afar and say nice things about it, nor are we to act as if God meant nothing to us. Having given us His Word, we are to act on it and claim His name. We do this by performance and profession; ; living with His will. God has offered the quality of His name to us making us holy, making us a people uniquely His own.

What do you do about the name of God? Do you let it fall profanely from your lips at times? Do you utter it meaninglessly at others? Do you act religious in a professing way but live selfishly and fearfully? Do you seek to be thought of as a good person but do not demonstrate the love and reality of the Lord? In all these cases we are taking the name of the Lord in vain and the Lord will not hold guiltless those who do so.

During the middle ages, pretenders often came to the Jewish communities claiming to be the Divine Messiah. They offered to prove their claims by saying the Divine Name and charming the people with pretended religious