

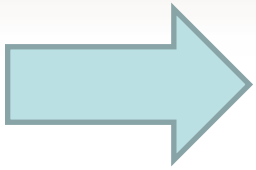
The Second Commandment

Excerpts taken from the book:
“Keeping the Faith”
Terry K. Dittmer





Pr. Brian Wolfmueller



Pr. Brian
Wolfmueller – You
Should Be
Lutheran (2-minute
excerpt from
lecture on “Has
Christianity
Failed?”)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8oMV7L-XcQ>



The Ten Commandments





The Second Commandment

- **YOU SHALL NOT MISUSE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD.**
- What does this mean?
- *We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.*



Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What is cursing by God's name?
 - Cursing by God's name is
 - Blaspheming God by speaking evil of Him or mocking Him
 - Calling down the anger and punishment of God upon oneself or any other person or thing.
 - Matthew 26:74: Then he [Peter] began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man."
- What is swearing by God's name?
 - Swearing by God's name is taking an oath in which we call on God to witness the truth of what we say or promise and to punish us if we lie or break our promise.



God's Name

- The Bible gives us many names whereby we know and call upon God
 - Jehovah, Lord, God, Christ, Savior, Comforter, etc...



Misusing God's Name

- God's name is holy and sacred. It should be used in holy and sacred ways.
- God's name is misused when we...
- Curse
 - Speaking evil of God.
 - Wishing evil or injury on ourselves.
 - Asking God to damn someone or telling someone to "go to hell!"
 - We have no right to curse someone who God has not cursed.





Misusing God's Name

– Swear

- Making a solemn declaration before God.
- Calling on God to be a witness to the truth of what we say (or to punish us if we lie or break our promise). ([James 5:12](#) *Above all, my brothers and sisters, **do not swear**—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple “Yes” or “No.” Otherwise you will be **condemned.***)
- It's okay to take an oath in a court of law if one tells the truth.
- Perjury, however, is a false oath, a lie. Peter took an oath and said he didn't know Jesus.



Worldview Everlasting



3 minute excerpt from
“Seks, Lies, and
Murder” on Worldview
Everlasting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OboDdEYp9ik>



Catechism – Questions and Answers

- When are we permitted, and even required, to swear by God's name?
 - We are permitted, and even required, to take an oath by God's name when an oath is necessary for the glory of God or the welfare of our neighbor. Examples include the following: testimony in court, oath of office, wedding vows.



Catechism – Questions and Answers

- When is swearing forbidden?
 - Swearing is forbidden when it is done falsely, thoughtlessly, or in sinful, uncertain, or unimportant matters. [[Matthew 5:33-37](#)]
- What is using satanic arts by God's name?
 - Using God's name in order to perform or claim to perform supernatural things with the help of the devil, such as casting spells, calling up a spirit, fortune-telling, consulting the dead, or other **occult** practices. [[Deuteronomy 18:10-12](#)]



Catechism – Questions and Answers

- Joining with or seeking the aid of people who practice these and similar satanic arts or worship Satan.
- Depending on horoscopes or similar ways for foretell the future.



Misusing God's Name

- Swear (continued)
 - A frivolous oath is thoughtless swearing, such as saying:
 - “Oh, God”, “Honest to God”, “I swear”
- Satanic arts
 - Trying to figure out the future and perhaps to control it by satanic practices.
 - Using fortunetellers, astrology, Ouija boards, palm reading, crystal gazing, spirit messages.
- Lying (by His name)
 - Not telling the truth, but using God's name for cover.
 - Telling half-truths as though they were the whole truth.





Lying... Continued.

- Deceive by His name
 - Misleading others in the name of God.
 - Leading someone to trust you because you call on God to be your witness.



False Doctrine

- One way we deceive by God's name is when we teach false **doctrine**, saying that it is God's Word or **revelation**.



Proper Use of God's Name

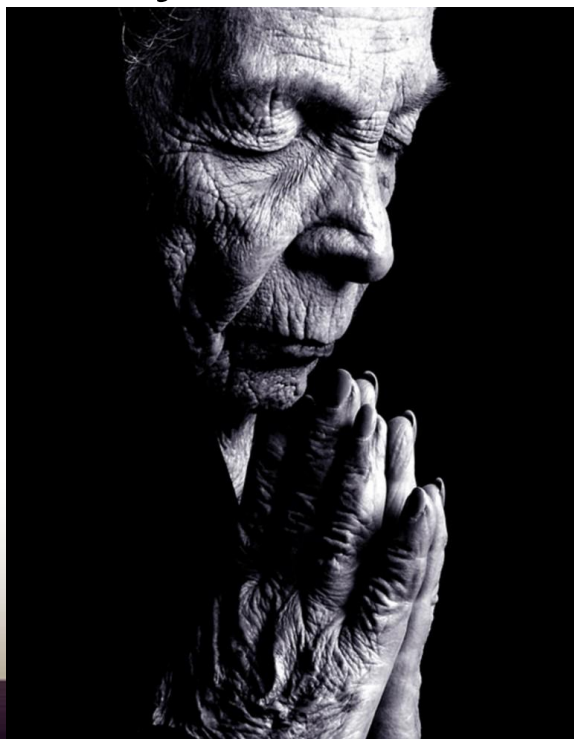
- What is the right way to use God's name?
- God's name is used properly when we
 - Call upon it in every trouble. Confide in God. Tell him what you are thinking. Trust Him to hear you and care about you.
 - Pray, praise. Take your concerns to God, whatever your needs, whatever challenges, problems, or troubles.





Proper Use of God's Name

- Also bring God into your good times. Share your joys with him. Acknowledge His goodness in your life. Give thanks.





Speak no Evil

- **James 3:5-6**
- *⁵ Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.*

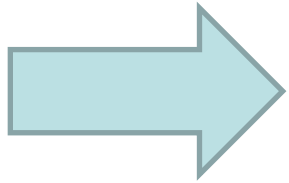


Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What does God require of us in the Second Commandment?
 - We should call upon His name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.



Does Love trump the Law?



Watch Pr. Matt Richard,
“The Law or Love?” on
Worldview Everlasting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-CWfZyirbg>