

# THE CATECHETICAL CHURCH

## The Ten Commandments



1. What two meanings does the word *name* have in this commandment, and what, therefore, is God protecting in this commandment?

*God is protecting the use of his titles as well as his reputation (that is, everything he reveals to us about himself in the Bible).*

2. What does it mean to “curse by God’s name”? What does it mean to “swear”?

*To curse is to call down God’s wrath on (damn) someone or something.  
To swear is to take an oath.*

3. When is swearing a sinful misuse of God’s name? When is swearing permitted?

*God forbids needless swearing, false swearing (called perjury in a court of law), and swearing in uncertain things. God allows us to use his name to swear when the government demands that we do so (for example, in court) and when our swearing glorifies him (a confirmation vow) or benefits others (a marriage vow, the president’s oath).*

4. How do people use God’s name to “lie”? What are such people called?

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5. How do people use God’s name to “deceive”? What are such people called?

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6. What does God forbid in the following passages? How does this apply to us today?

- *“There shall not be found among you...anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you.” (Deuteronomy 18:10-12).*

*God forbids that we be involved in the occult arts (even something as “innocent” as a Ouija board)*

- *“Do not turn to mediums or necromancers; do not seek them out, and so make yourselves unclean by them: I am the LORD your God.” (Leviticus 19:31).*

*God forbids that we seek the help of someone involved in the superstitious arts (psychics, those who write horoscopes).*

7. What are the four ways in which God wants us to use his name? Give examples from the Bible when God’s name was used in these ways.

*God wants us to use his name to call on him in trouble, to pray, praise, and give thanks. Examples from the Bible will vary.*

8. Read 1 Peter 2:9 — *“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”* What light does this verse shed on the meaning of the word praise?

*Praise means to use his name to tell others of his blessings and gift of salvation.*

9. Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 — *“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”* What does this verse say Jesus did to save us from our sins against the Second Commandment? What does that truth move us to do with regard to this commandment?

*Jesus took our sins upon himself and suffered and died for them, paying the penalty God demands for sin. He also lived perfectly in our place, keeping the Second Commandment for us, so that we might be*

*righteous before God. Jesus' work in our behalf moves us to respond with obedience.*