

Prayer: The Holy Name

Luke 11:1-13; Psalm 111

Date: March 15th, 2020

Place: Faith EBC

Reference to Ex:20:7; 28:29

Possible translation - You must not *bear* (or *carry*) the name of Yahweh, your God, in vain, for Yahweh will not hold guiltless one who *bears* (or *carries*) his name in vain. (Exodus 20:7, author's translation)¹

The Value of the Name – as evidenced in His Works, Psalm 98:1; 103:6, 22

Creation – Gen. 2:3; Job 26:7-14; 38-41; Psalm 8; 19; 104:24

The Work of Wisdom, Prov. 8

The Flood – Gen. 6-9

The Dispersion – Gen. 11

The Exodus – Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deut., Deut. 2:7

His appointment of Prophets, Priests, Kings, Apostles.

His work in choosing a nation to be a light to the nations. His work in giving the Ten Words, Ex. 32:16.

His design of the tabernacle and enablement of the workers, Ex. 36:1.

His work in blessing and cursing the nation, Lev. 26; Deut. 28.

His design of the Temple in the OT and the Millennium, 1 Kings, Ezek. 40-48.

His observable work among men, Job 34:10-33; 36:5-12, 22ff.; 37.

His work through the Cross and the resurrection, 1 Cor. 15.

His present work through the Church and His future work during the Millennium and Eternity, Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Rev. 5:10; 20:6.

His work in Eternity, Rev. 21; 22:1-5

Holy is His Name – intrinsic to His Person

The term holy is found 609x in 548 verses in the Scriptures.

This can be illustrated from the OT in numerous passages.

1. Solomon's Dedication of the Temple, 1 Kings 8:14-22.

2. Isaiah's experience of seeing YHWH in the Temple, Isa. 6:1-5.

Other throne room scenes have similar sights and expressions, cp. Psalm 18; Ezek. 1; Rev. 1; 4:8.

Passages on the Holiness of God, His Name, His dwelling and His people include:

Ex. 15:11-13; 19:6; 22:31; Lev. 10:3, 10; 11:44-45; Deut. 7:6; 14:2; 1 Chron. 16:10;

Psalm 30:4; 33:21; 97:12; 99:3, 5, 9; 103:1; 105:3; 111:9; 145:21; Isa. 5:16; 6:3;

8:13; 29:23; Ezek. 39:7, 25; Hosea 11:9; Luke 1:49; John 17:11; Rev. 4:8.

Representing The Name - in Word and Deed

We were created for a purpose.

Passages on our purpose include: Gen. 1:26-28; 18:19; Romans 5-8, 2 Cor. 3-5;

Eph. 2:10; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; 2 Peter 1:3-11; Rev. 4:8

Prayer – Invocation of the Name

The believer's life is to be a life of prayer. Prayer is our expression to God in worship. Prayer is our expression of joy as we witness God at work in us and around us. Prayer is our heart cry to God in the midst of pain. Prayer is our appeal to God for change in us and others. Prayer is ultimately our desire to know God. Prayer is our recognition of God's Holiness and that we humbly bow before Him in reverence and awe.

Prayers in Scripture include: the Psalms; Nehemiah prayer, Daniel prayer, the Disciples prayer – just to mention a few

Conclusion

I would encourage you not to focus on the form of your prayer, although you couldn't go wrong in meditating on the Prayers of Scripture and seek to follow their form. Rather your focus in prayer is to be on God our Father as a person who loves us. We are to bear His Name with integrity and holiness. We are to represent Him in our words and our works, just as the Father sent His Son as a model of how we are to represent Him here on earth as heavenly beings look on.

¹ Carmen Joy Imes, [Bearing God's Name: Why Sinai Still Matters](#) (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic: An Imprint of InterVarsity Press, 2019), 49.

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Introduction