Sermon by Rev. Debbie Stiles

April 19, 2020

Review - few weeks ago, God led us to study in OT in Gen/Ex/Lev. We did share about Christ in the Passover and Resurrection Sunday. So now we are studying more of "10 Commandments" – apply to us today? How??

1st Commandment in Exodus 20:3, "You will have no other gods before Me." (KJV & NIV) Means God first, not other things first...

2nd commandment – <u>Ex. 20:4</u> "You shall not make for yourselves any idol." Remember "idol" worship is ignoring God, loving other things first. Both 1st and 2nd Commandment talk about idolatry. What to do? (1) Recognize/admit our sin and repent of it. (2) Return to God/Worship Him.

Now 3rd commandment – <u>Exodus 20:7</u>

You must not use the name of the LORD your God thoughtlessly; the LORD will punish anyone who misuses his name. (NCV)

Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will find guilty anyone who misuses his name. (NIRV)

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. (KJV)

First – You must not wrongly use name of the Lord your God! Expand??

The name of the Lord God – is HOLY!! Read <u>Isaiah 6:1-3</u> What means God is holy? Holy means God is different, separate, exalted majesty, His awesome power, His absolute purity, His immeasurable brightness, His unfathomable glory, and His redeeming salvation.

Hebrews loved God – won't even say God's name – just 4 letters... YHWH In the OT, name meant His character – love, truth, holiness.

Each time the scribe came across the Hebrew word for God, he had to wipe his pen clean. And when he came across the name of God, Jehovah (YHWH), he had to wash his whole body before he could write it.

<u>Leviticus 22:31-33 (NCV)</u> "Remember My commands and obey them; I am the Lord. Show respect for My holy name. You Israelites must remember that I am holy; I am the Lord, who has made you holy. I did bring you out of Egypt so I can become your God. I AM THE LORD."

And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You. Psalm 9:10 (NKJV)

So if you know how to say YHWH – that know Your name? NO. Know HIM!! His name, His character, His ways... (example of Billy Graham)

"10 Commandments" only for Jewish people long ago? NO!! "10 Commandments" we must follow today!! Obey God's Word! In NT, Jesus said, keep 10 commandments, and do it NOW!! In Greek – YHWH is same as word "Jehovah" Clarify that we witness for God, but not church group JW!

People through the Bible called God various names by His character – so He has many different names (pix)

So 3rd commandment says to honor God's name? What for? 3 true stories **Forgiveness – solving plm with 8 people; accept Christ prayer; <u>Acts 13:38</u> ** <u>Psalm 20:7</u> Miracles - story of my mom driving towed car from KC **Healing – spinal meningitis – healed in 5 days <u>James 5:14-15</u> God's name is important!!!

When Jesus was done with his earthly ministry, read <u>John 17:24-26</u> Because of Jesus, His followers understood GOD!

So God gave Jesus the power - Philippians 2:9-11 God the Father's name – YHWH or Jehovah....now power given to Jesus!! We pray "in the name of Jesus... Amen" TRUE POWER!

We worship Him through our words, prayer, singing, reading His Word, giving money or time to His ministry, becoming totally embedded in HS!

One more thing - I have no power in myself. But I can believe in his name. I can say his name. JESUS. I love Jesus' prayer for his disciples before his death – a powerful prayer for his disciples protection. Before Jesus' death HHe prayed is disciples, "'Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name You gave Me... (John 17: 11b-12a). I love that Jesus points out the power and protection of His name. The name of Jesus. Jesus asks the Father to protect the disciples by the power of God's name.

Do we say the name of Jesus? Voice or signs. In conversations. At work. In prayer. At home. In the car. At work. Now with the coronavirus. Do we believe God the Father, and who Jesus is? How powerful he is?

(Next week talk more of when people misuse God's name - Lord will punish)

Concerned about coronavirus, worried about losing job and school time, angry that all this has happened? Look to God and totally depend on Him! He has the answers. We are seeing lots of positive things happen too – angry families caring for each other. People saved. *Prayer*

Alicia's worship dance; encouraging words from Franky; closing screen.