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SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

Abusing God Verbally is Not Acceptable

BY RITA BENNETT, WORSHIP COLUMNIST

“Expect an answer that is beyond your understanding.”

The third Commandment is broken by a lot of people, and if you work in a job in the marketplace



you'll know what I mean. The commandment is:

“Do not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.” (Exodus 20:7a)

“For the Lord will not hold guiltless one who takes His Name

in vain.” – (Exodus 20:7b).

First of all, we need to know who God is when trying to obey the Commandment. God encountered Moses at a burning bush that did not burn up. Once God had Moses' attention, He told him that he wanted him to go to Egypt to bring the Children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage.

Moses asked this God of the Burning Bush, “Who shall I say sent me?” God told Moses to tell them, “I am who I am” – (Exodus 3:14).

When you're talking to “The Creator of the universe and all that is in it, including yourself,” you can expect an answer that is beyond your understanding.

Well, Moses decided to go on this “extended rescue mission camping trip” which would include over a million people. Moses accepted the challenge because God promised to go with him; he trusted Him and believed he would succeed. And he did.

Theologically we find, “The two essential and personal names of God in the Hebrew Scriptures are ‘Elohim’ and *Jehovah* (more correctly “*Yahweh*”); the former calling attention to the fullness of divine power, the latter meaning ‘He who is’ and thus declaring the divine self-existence.” (Merril Unger, *The New Unger's Bible Dictionary*, Moody Bible Institute, 1988, p. 480).

“God is a Spirit” and reveals Himself in the Old Testament through His mighty acts.

In the New Testament, God the Father often reveals Himself through His Son, Jesus Christ. Now for the first time we can physically see God because Scripture teaches that Jesus is made in the likeness of His Father (He is “the perfect reflection of God's glory – the image of His Person” – Hebrews 1:1-4).

Before Jesus returned to His Father in Heaven we are introduced to the Holy Spirit who will reveal Jesus to those who are open (John 15:5-15). Here we see the Triune God.

When a person takes God's name in vain, he is speaking against God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit! Often Jesus Christ, Son of God, gets the brunt of the offences of cursing or damning His Name.

Have you ever been around a person, perhaps in your place of business, whose language is filled with expletives that are cursing or damning Father God or Jesus? Actually this person may have learned his form of speech from father or mother. He may or may not realize what he is doing.

Not only is this individual breaking the third Commandment and abusing God's name, he is abusing the people who are hearing him speak this way. When these words are spoken over and over they will go down into the subconscious of the speaker and the hearer. It's like bad seeds being planted in the garden of the soul.

Perhaps you've found it necessary to walk out of profane movies or turn off profane TV programs. Don't let your mind get hardened into accepting profane speech.

Hebrew lesson: This time we'll learn the letter *Gimel* (the third letter in the Hebrew alphabet). Numerically *Gimel* means No. 3 and spiritually it means to humble yourself before God.

To make the letter you will draw a camel starting with a flat line for its head. Bring the line down for a long neck, then branch out for the right leg. Now make the left leg.

Gamal is the Hebrew word for camel, an animal that must kneel to drink water. This third letter, *Gimel*, reminds us to humble our tongues.

This letter should help you remember the third Commandment.

Local author Rita Bennett is CEO of the Edmonds-based Christian Renewal Association. She can be reached at (425) 775-2965 or at www.EmotionallyFree.org, or by writing her at P.O. Box 576, Edmonds, WA 98020. Reprint ©2008 by Rita Bennett.