

“Oh My God!”
By Mike Thomas

I am amazed at those in our society who are quick to remove God's name from everything except defamatory language. God's name is not welcomed in our public schools or court houses, but very few are upset when His name is associated with cursing or angry outbursts. “G-D” is a common phrase when someone is upset, and “Oh my God” is a typical response to surprise. (HGTV should be renamed OMGTV because of the many people saying, “Oh my God”.) It is also common to hear “My Gosh” and “Gee” from people. Since these are euphemisms for the Lord's name, they are all in the same category of taking the Lord's name in vain.

One of the Ten Commandments God gave the Jews was to have respect for His name. “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” (Ex. 20:7). If you and I were to list the top 10 things we expect of people in living a righteous life, I doubt any of us would include a caution about how we use the Lord's name. It's not as offensive to us as the other things in the Ten Commandments: lying, murder, adultery, and so on. But to God, it is just as wicked to use His name as a common word as it is to murder someone. Both are acts of irreverence and disregard. Even though we are no longer under the Law of Moses, we are to be just as careful and respectful when referring to God (I Tim. 1:20).

If I got mad and cursed your mother's name, would you be upset? If I used your name in association with evil, would it bother you? “Oh my God” is no different to God. It is taking His name in vain by using it in a common and disrespectful manner. Our Creator deserves a better response from us. Correction. Our Creator demands a better response from us!

Who
By Paul B. Blake

Romans 8:31-35

1) “Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect?” Answer: It is God who justifies. He created the whole world, and it is His.

2) “Who is he that condemneth?” Christ died for us; He paid the price for us. No one else paid this price, so how can anyone else condemn us?

3) “Who is even at the right hand of God” Christ rose from the dead and is sat down at the right hand of God. He has all power and authority.

4) “Who also maketh intercession for us” There is none greater than the Son of God making intercession for us.

5) “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?” There is nothing that can separate us from Christ's love. He has proven this on the cross and in the resurrection from the dead.

6) “Who can be against us?” God spared not His own Son for us. No one or no thing can separate us from God's love, but we can by a sinful life. If we sin, we will be separated from God. It is our choice.

Some People

The president of U.S.T.R. said the following: "Some people insist on being the bride at every wedding and the corpse at every funeral." How true this is! Some people have to be number one at everything going on. They have to be noticed, the center of attention. They have all the sicknesses of all other people. They are in the business of all other people. Their job is the hardness of all other people. They are most beautiful of all. If you get something bad, they got it worse. If you get something good, they got the same thing, but theirs is better. They will do anything to be number one. When there is an assembly of some kind, there are people that have to be the first one there. They will leave hours early so they can be first. Why?

Don't try to be number one at everything. You are just hurting yourself. The scriptures teach us differently. When you come in, don't sit down in the best seat, but take a lesser one. Then when the Master comes, he can move you up. Christ said that he that is first shall be last, and he that is last shall be first. Give up trying to be number one. If you do make it, you will not keep it long. It's too hard. Don't talk about how good you and your family are. It will mean nothing coming from you. Let someone else say it. It will mean a whole lot more. (selected)

Three Votes Cast

First vote: God votes for us to go to Heaven.

Second vote: The Devil casts a vote for us to go to Hell.

Third vote: We have the deciding vote.

God has done everything He could for us, so if we voted His way, we would go to Heaven. And if we do vote His way, we will be saved.

The Devil has done nothing to deserve our vote. The only thing he has done is make life corrupt. The only promise the devil can deliver is hell.

We have the deciding vote. If we serve God here on earth and do His will, our vote is for God. If we disobey God, our vote is for the devil. We make the choice. How are you voting? Who are you backing? You can't work for the devil and vote for God. If you work for the devil, you voted for the devil, and you will receive the devil's reward. If you work for God you will receive God's reward. (selected)

A Moments Wisdom

It is not how much we have but how much we enjoy that makes happiness.

Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first and the lesson later.

What shall it profit a father if he gains the whole world and loses his own son?

To be without friends is a serious form of poverty.

Some people's spirits grow gray before their hair.

In the words of an old African-American preacher: "I read myself full; I think myself clear; I pray myself hot; and then I preach myself empty"

Why does your failure to plan necessitate an emergency on my part?

If my hands are fully occupied in holding on to something, I can neither give nor receive.

Love at first sight is easy to understand; it's when two people have been looking at each other for a lifetime that it becomes a miracle.

An ounce of keeping your mouth shut is worth a pound of explanations.

Some people are born on third base and go through life thinking they hit a triple.

I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who overcomes his enemies; for the hardest victory is victory over self.