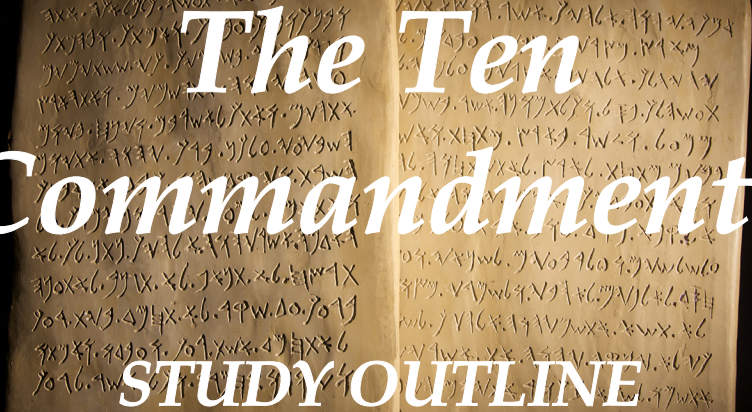


VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

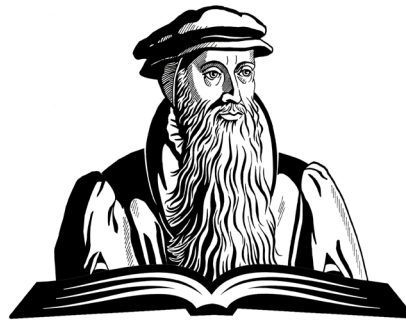
by Rev. A. T. Vergunst



**The Ten
Commandments**
STUDY OUTLINE

Lecture #10

The Third Commandment



**The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education**

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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The Ten Commandments

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst
in 18 lectures

1. Introduction
2. The God of the Law
3. Paradise and the Law
4. Jesus and the Law
5. The Law and the Sinner
6. The Law and the Saint
7. The Law at Mount Sinai
8. The First Commandment
9. The Second Commandment
10. The Third Commandment
11. The Fourth Commandment
12. The Fifth Commandment
13. The Sixth Commandment
14. The Seventh Commandment
15. The Eighth Commandment
16. The Ninth Commandment
17. The Tenth Commandment
18. The Law in Eternity

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STUDY OUTLINE

Lecture #10

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

Lecture Title:

Honor My Name

Key Text:

“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.”—Exodus 20, verse 7

Summary:

God’s name is not just given for distinguishing himself from other gods. His name is a revelation. His name is the very identity of our God and Creator. Therefore, when God reveals himself in his names, he tells us who he is. We are to treat that name of God with great respect. The Third Commandment reveals that loving God, above all, with all our heart, mind and strength, means that we will use his name with the utmost care, respect and reverence.

Structure:

1. Introduction – the third general principle.
2. Why it is so important to use God’s name honorably:
 - a. Shows that you recognize who God is and what he is like.
 - b. He will not hold him guiltless that takes his name in vain.
 - c. Dishonoring God’s name is the nurse of sin.
3. What is meant by using God’s name in vain.
4. How we use his name in vain:
 - a. by referring to or speaking dishonorably about God or to God.
 - b. by appealing to God in a dishonorable connection.
 - c. by failing to bear his name with honor.
5. How we use the name of God honorably.
6. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. What is the third general principle? Give some examples.

2. Is God's name just given to distinguish him from other gods? What theological truths do we learn from God's name?

3. What is the relationship of the Third Commandment to the First and Second?

4. How does our view of God affect whether we use God's name honorably? What will happen if we dishonor his name?

5. Explain what it means to take God's name in vain? How can we guard against such sin?

6. How is God's name most commonly taken in vain? What should we bear in mind when we speak about God or pray unto him?

7. Why is it said, "flippancy is the cousin to profanity"? Should we keep silence when the name of God is taken in vain?

8. What does the Bible teach us about vows? How is biblical swearing different than sinful swearing? What is blasphemy?

9. How do we take God's name in vain when we fail to bear his name with honor?

10. How can a Christian use the name of God honorably?

Further Application:

1. Meditate on the Third Commandment using the Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Shorter Catechism.

2. Before the lectures in this module, did you realize the importance of the law in our Christian life? Why are we to look so deeply into the law, and let the law look so deeply into us?
