

Isaiah 48; Lord's Day 36
BEARING GOD'S NAME WITH FEAR

- I. What is His name?
 - A. God's "name" is unique because it is His revelation of Himself to man (Ps. 75:1; 72:19; Acts 4:12; Rom. 10:13).
 - 1. God's name so reveals Him that His names are Him and He is His names.
 - 2. God's name is in creation and in providence, so all men are able to know that He is and is to be worshiped (Ps. 8:1; 75:1).
 - 3. God's richer Self-revelation is found in Scripture.
 - 4. God's best name (Self-revelation) is Jesus Who graciously saving a people from sin (Acts 4:12).
 - B. Through His Name (revelations) God shows Himself so that man is able to know Him.
- II. The use of God's names.
 - A. We are always to use God's names with awe and praise befitting His awesome holiness, greatness and majesty!
 - 1. Angels and men are called to give God the glory due unto His holy name (Psalm 29:2; 66:2; 96:8).
 - 2. We worship Him by calling on His name for help (Joel 2:32; Rom. 10:13; Acts 9:14), invoking His promises to help or save.
 - 3. We glorify Him by subjecting ourselves to Him; when we love Him; and when we thank Him.
 - 4. We glorify Him by propagating the truth about Him, declaring what we know about God and His will.
 - B. Christians are to be aware of how they are to "take" God's name correctly.
 - C. We are forbidden using His name in "vain," i.e., emptying of the name of honor.
- III. God adds incentive to this commandment: "not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain."
 - A. The penalty is nothing less than death (Leviticus 24:15).
 - B. Let this lead us to use His name with great care, fear and reverence.