

## Theology Simply Explained — WSC53 “The Importance of Worship Demeanor”

**Pastor walks his children through** Westminster Shorter Catechism question 53—especially explaining how our reverence in worship and life is so important that it is the third commandment.

Q53. Which is the third commandment? ***The third commandment is, 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.***

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))**

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Now the shorter catechism question for this week. Is number 53. What is? Which is the third commandment? The answer is the third commandment is. 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.

Now again, we're going to get into What the Commandment requires, what the Commandment forbids and the reason that is given the reason that is annexed to the third commandment. So not really spending much, on much time on those things. But just noting, its place. And the place of the third commandment is teaching us, the importance of our demeanor.

Towards God, especially in his worship.

So the first commandment that we would worship, God Alone, the second commandment, That we would worship God by those actions alone that God himself. Devises that we would not craft or produce from our imaginations. The actions by which to worship God. And then the third commandment how it is that we approach this God, the demeanor with which we approach this God who has revealed himself to us as this particular God.

And so, we have his name Uh, I am Yahweather. God who brought thee up up out of the land of Egypt? And,

I Yahweh your God. Am a jealous God? Visiting the iniquity. Of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of them that ate me. And so, there is this great sense already. By the time, we get to the third commandment that the name of God, is this revelation of his character.

And in particular, the name that he is given, as his Memorial name, which he is Repeatedly employing in the first half of the Ten Commandments in the first table of the Ten Commandments, Is communicating something about himself. Well, If it is this God of this character and this relationship that we have to him.

Uh, whom we are to worship and whom we are to worship. The particular actions that he has given, then that means something about how we come to him and Will think about the demeanor that is required, and the demeanor that is forbidden, and why it is so Urgent that we have this particular Demeanor towards him.

But just now, as we're just thinking about the placement, the numbering where this commandment Falls, we see how important it is. That we would carry ourselves. Uh, rightly honoringly solemnly seriously. Uh, towards God. In our worshiping him and our thinking about him in our belonging to him and our having his name upon us, So forth and we'll talk about those things but just now, the the Weightiness, or the greatness of the importance.

Love having. All right, heart attitude. That shows fourth of course in our speech and our actions, but our right heart attitude towards God himself or a right demeanor. Towards God himself. So the question is, which is the third commandment, and the answer is the third commandment is. 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.