**Taking God's Name In Vain.**

 Exodus 20:7 says "you shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name."

The word 'Name' in Bible times meant something more than it does today. It was not only a phrase by which a person was called, but included who the person is as well.

**What is the Name of the Lord?**

In the KJ version of the old testament, when the word 'LORD' is capitalized, it stands in place of the Tetragrammaton, YHWH, which is transliterated, Jehovah in our language. When the word 'Lord' is not capitalized, it is usually in reference to the word, 'Adonai'. Other times the word 'God' is used for the plurality of the Hebrew word, Elohim. -ie: Genesis1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"- the word 'God' is in place of the word 'Elohim'.

To understand the 'Name' of the Lord, we also have to understand it means more than just the previous paragraph. It means 'Character',' the substance of the person,' 'what the person is known for.' In the case of 'Almighty God,' it is His Deity, His Holiness, His Worthiness, all of His Attributes. Some have said the word 'God' is not His Name, however, God is Who He is.

The word 'God' then is His Name. It is a reference to His Holiness, His Character, His Person. When using it as an exclamation, 'O God', or 'God Almighty', is to 'misuse' it. It brings the name 'God' to be a 'by word', to where it no longer is held in respect to 'Almighty God'. This of course would be the object of Satan, to have society disregard the Holiness of God, and by misusing His Name, he would accomplish it. Society misuses the Name of God by calling on Him to 'Damn' something or someone. It's bad enough for society to misuse God's Name, but for a Christian to misuse it, should never be.

I believe many Christians misuse the word 'God' innocently because they have never understood exactly what they are saying. Some have misused it so much they don't realize they are saying it. That's because there is a lack of teaching on the subject. And that's because many teachers of the Word of God don't fully understand what it means themselves. As the saying goes, water can't rise above it's own level.

It is my hope that this teaching will bring reverence to the Lord and to not misuse His Name.