

Intro:

Third Commandment: what is forbidden. READ WLC Q&A 113 through “providences”.

Main Point of Text: David takes responsibility for his ways and his words before men, which leads to prayer with God.

Sermon Point: *Hold your tongue.*

Move 1: *Live and speak with an attitude of reverence for your Holy God.*

LC: “the not using of God's name as is required”. Respect expressed in way you talk about God/providence/HIStory: *If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings ... (Mal. 2:2)*

Move 2: *A careless representation of your Redeemer's name abuses His reputation.*

LC: “the abuse of it in an ignorant [lack knowledge], vain [lack sincerity], irreverent [lack respect], profane [lack appreciation], superstitious [lack truth], or wicked mentioning [lack true honor]. *A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name ... (Mal. 1:6)*

LC: “otherwise using his titles (Christ), attributes (goodness), ordinances (Word/worship/sacraments), or works (providence), by blasphemy (contempt/insulting), perjury (lying/faking it): *But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth? Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee. (Psalm 50:16-17)*

Move 3: *Your word out to be good, and you ought to be good on your word.*

LC: “abuse of it in ... all sinful cursings, oaths, vows, and lots ... and fulfilling them, if of things unlawful”: You must not wish/do evil on others. *Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him ... (Proverbs 24:17-18)*

LC: “violating of our oaths and vows, if lawful”: A promise implies God. *LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart ... He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. (Ps. 15:1-2, 5)*

Move 4: As well, what you do not say speaks volumes.

LC: “murmuring and quarrelling at, curious prying into, and misapplying of God's decrees and providences”: *What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid ... Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?* (Romans 9:14, 20-21)

Psalm 39:1. David talks of how to conduct himself before the Lord in presence of wicked:

- He takes personal responsibility: “I, my, my, me”. Complaining often our lack of owning up.
- He holds back from complaining against God's discipline, which leads to praying: Vss. 2-5; 7-13.
- For his ways will effect his tongue. And his mouth will effect his witness: Vss. 6, 8.

Conclusion:

Psalm 19:14. Matthew 15:18; 12:34-37.

Hold your tongue.