

And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

— Revelation 22:6 —

YHVH

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, 12Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; 13Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of **the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ**; 14Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

YHVH is the name of God, as revealed in the Bible. Yod, Hey, Vav, Hey: the best anyone can tell, that is the way the Hebrew letters sound individually. To turn it into a word, it needs some vowels. No one knows what those vowels should be. Some have even made a religion out of how it should be said properly. According to them, you have to know, and be able to say it properly to know the true God. Otherwise, your god is a false god. But God isn't a magic genie who responds when you say abracadabra or hocus pocus.

The Israelites would never attempt to enunciate it. They thought, superstitiously, that it might put them in danger of breaking the third commandment. Exodus 20:7, "Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD [YHVH] thy God [Elohim, plural] in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." Traditionally, Jews have replaced the name, YHVH, with Adonai (my Lord) or Hashem (the name).

What does it mean to "take the name of the LORD (YHVH) thy God (Elohim, plural) in vain"?

Vain (from Strong's Hebrew concordance - grain of salt recommended):
07723. awv shav', shawv or shav {shav}; from the same as 7722 in the sense of desolating; evil (as destructive), literally (ruin) or morally (especially guile); figuratively idolatry (as false, subjective), uselessness (as deceptive, objective; also adverbially, in vain):--false(-ly), lie, lying, vain, vanity.

To take His name in vain is to use it in hypocrisy or to spread a false message in His name, as in false prophecy, thereby giving Him a bad name. I believe the following is an example of people who have taken His name in vain.

Matthew 7:22-23 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Understanding the definition of a word is far more important than the phonetic symbol you use to represent that definition. I wouldn't presume to know how to pronounce YHWH. Are we even using the correct letters when we replace the Hebrew letters with English letters? Does it even matter? What matters is who YHWH is.

Exodus 20:1-3 And God [Elohim, plural] spake all these words, saying, 2I *am* the LORD [YHWH] thy God [Elohim, plural], which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:7 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.

Deuteronomy 5:11 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.

Only Jesus Saves