

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Fear, Love & Trust

Law/Gospel

Just as Goliath relied on his own strength and scoffed at David and David's God, so I, too, break the Second Commandment today by cursing and lying, by using God's name in thoughtless ways, and by failing to honor and praise God. **Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, kept the Second Commandment perfectly for me. He never once used vain language, but instead called upon His Father in heaven, trusting in Him at all times, all the way to the cross, where He paid for my sin.**

Take-Home Point

God commands that I respect His name.

Bible Words

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Psalm 103:1

From the Catechism The Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:31–50

After the Israelites entered the Promised Land, God faithfully met their needs even though they often failed to trust in Him. For hundreds of years, the Lord sent judges to rule, guide, and protect them.

The hard-hearted Israelites eventually became dissatisfied with judges and demanded a king as the other nations had. The Lord granted their request in Saul. Sadly, once made king, Saul turned from the Lord, so God raised up David, a faithful shepherd boy from Bethlehem.

In the meantime, Saul continued as king and military leader. In one Philistine showdown, the armies stood on opposing mountains. Each day, the Philistine champion Goliath stood in the middle to challenge one Israelite to fight for all. Nine feet tall, attired in bronze armor, and armed with huge weapons, Goliath intimidated the Israelites and mocked God.

Teenage David heard Goliath's taunts while on an errand to bring food to his soldier brothers. He asked "Who is this foreigner who defies the army of the living God?" and volunteered to fight. Saul resisted, but David said the Lord—who protected him from lions and bears that attacked his father's sheep—would deliver him from the Philistine.

Refusing Saul's armor and trusting in God instead, David faced Goliath with a slingshot. David called on the name of the Lord, claimed victory for the Lord, and sank one stone into the giant's forehead; he died.

David trusted God, gave glory to Him before men, and foreshadowed the Messiah, Jesus, who kept the Second Commandment in our stead. How easily Jesus could have cursed His enemies or used sinful words against His cowardly, slow-to-understand disciples. Instead, even when rebuking sinners, Jesus spoke only the truth.

In His death on the cross, Jesus took the punishment for our sins. In His resurrection, He declared victory over our enemies of sin, death, and the devil. He gladly forgives sin and gives salvation to all who trust Him.

Prayer

Jesus, give us courage to call on Your name in every trouble, in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. In Your name we pray. Amen.

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