

THE 100



The Mask





Recap

The subject of God's law is controversial among the churches that call themselves Christian. In the professing Christian world, there is much **confusion** and **division** about God's law. Some churches reject the law wholesale, while others reject portions of it **Isaac Khalil**

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Recap

“I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. You must not have any other god but me.”

Exodus 20:2-3

We become what we focus/dwell upon

“The **law of concentration states that whatever you dwell upon grows. The more you think about something, the more it becomes part of your reality.” **Brian Tracy****

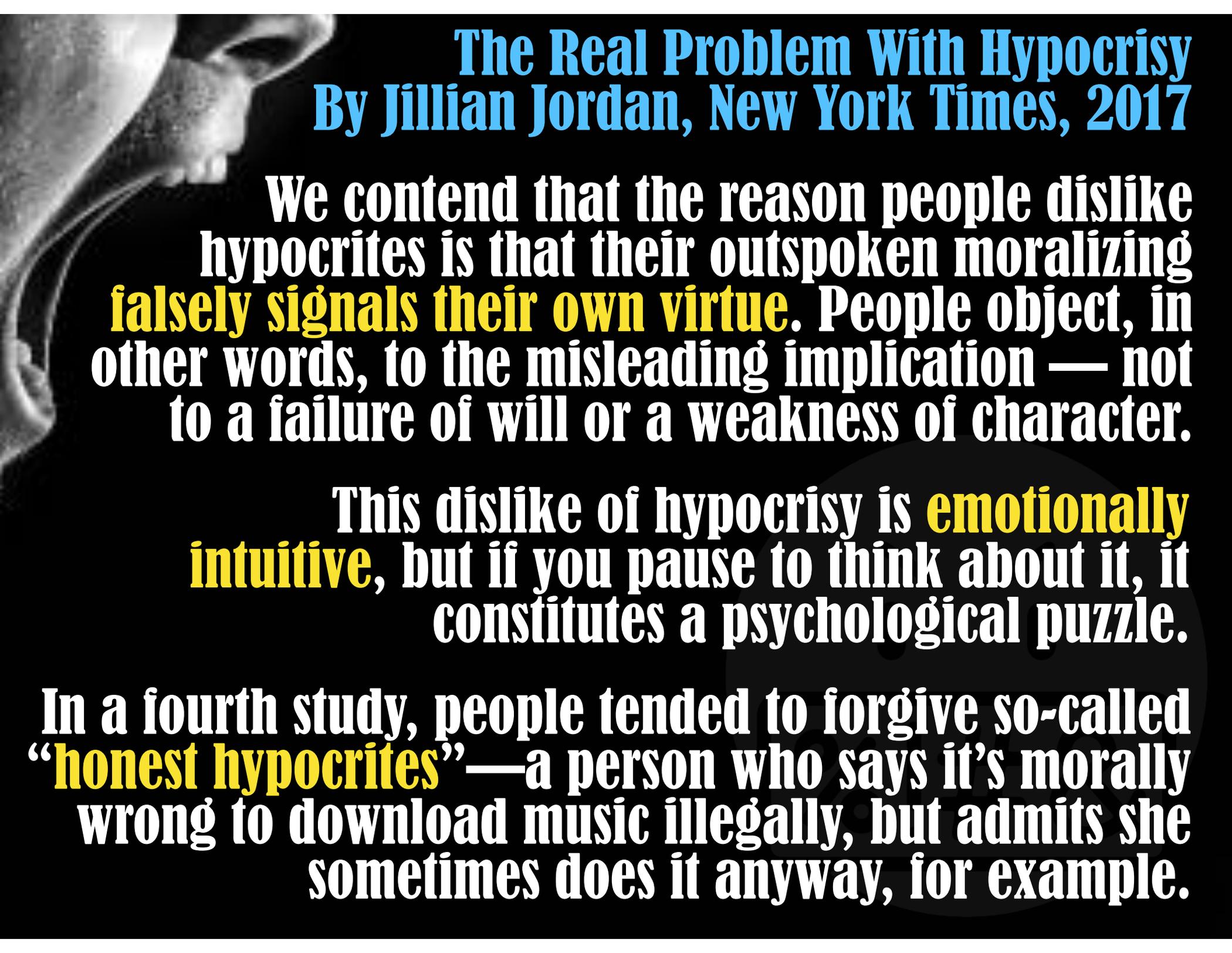


Recap

You must not make for yourself an **idol** of any kind or an **image** of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them **Exodus 20:4-5a**

If we lose a good thing, it makes us sad. If we lose an idol, it **devastates us**. **Tim Keller**

Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. **1 John 5:3**



The Real Problem With Hypocrisy

By Jillian Jordan, New York Times, 2017

We contend that the reason people dislike hypocrites is that their outspoken moralizing **falsely signals their own virtue**. People object, in other words, to the misleading implication — not to a failure of will or a weakness of character.

This dislike of hypocrisy is **emotionally intuitive**, but if you pause to think about it, it constitutes a psychological puzzle.

In a fourth study, people tended to forgive so-called **“honest hypocrites”**—a person who says it’s morally wrong to download music illegally, but admits she sometimes does it anyway, for example.



“You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.” Exodus 20:7

“You shall not take the **name of the Lord your God in **vain**, for the Lord will not hold him **guiltless** who takes his name in vain.”**

“Is there such a thing as “the worst sin**” — one sin that is worse than all others? In fact, there is.” Dennis Prager**

On the surface, the third commandment seems to be banning profanity, but when carefully looked at, it reveals that much more is at stake. **His name tells us what kind of God He is.** Of the over 300 names for God given in the Bible, each is a revelation of the holy, sacred character of God. Never are they to be uttered or treated lightly.



According to the Mishnah (Jewish commentary on the law), **the sacred name** was only to be pronounced in the Temple in Jerusalem, and only in very specific occasions - by the High Priest on Yom Kippur and when the priests sanctified the crowds with the Priestly Blessing.

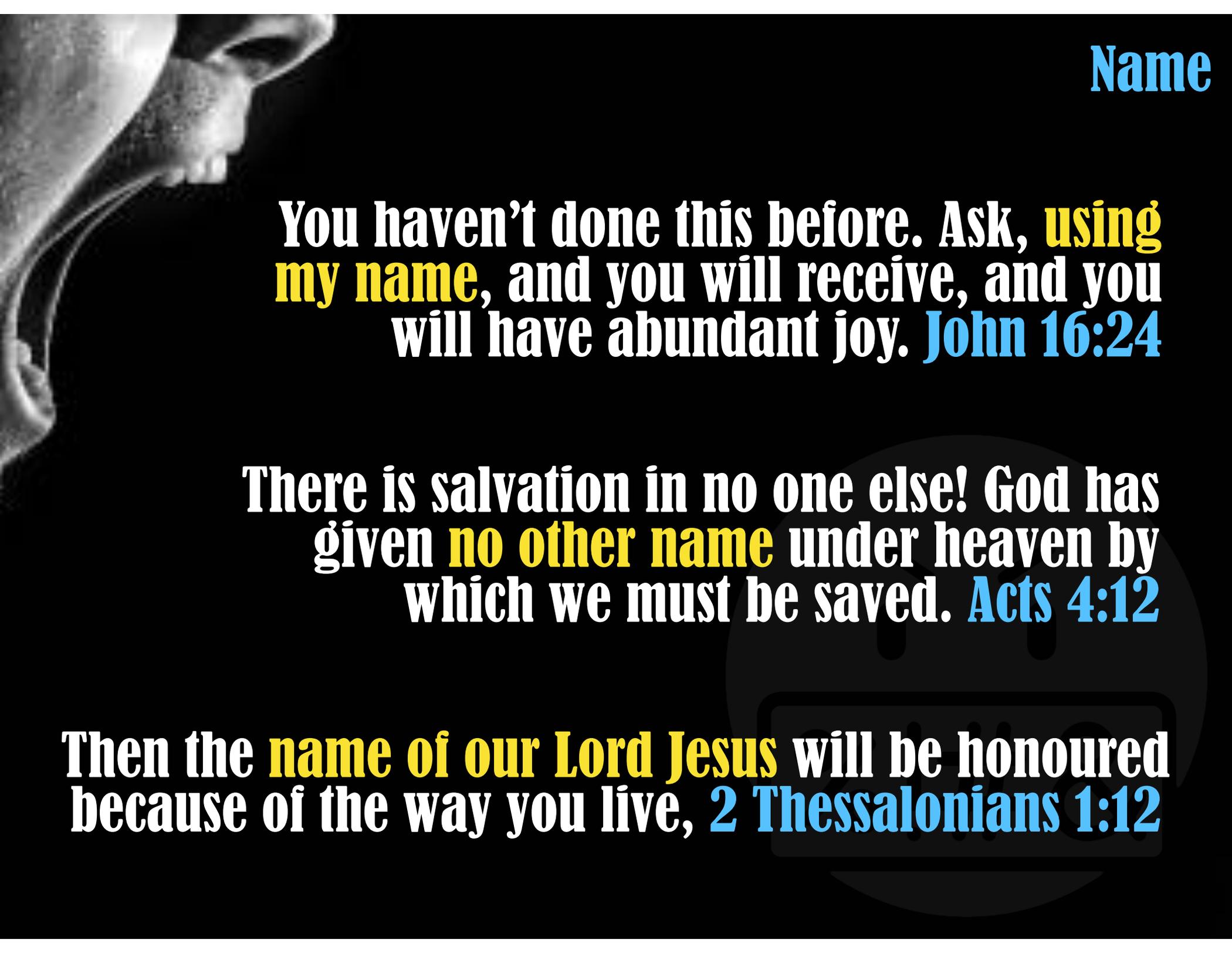
The Lord replied, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and **I will call out my name, Yahweh, before you...**” **Exodus 33:19**

It pays dividends in insight and understanding to take notice of biblical names. In biblical thought, a name is not merely a label of identification but also an expression of the bearer's **essential nature**. It includes its bearer's reputation, character, and distinctiveness from others.

John W. Ritenbaugh



In Hebrew thought, then, **a name is inextricably bound with the named thing's existence.** Nothing exists unless it has a name, and its essence is concentrated in its name. Hence, **creation is not complete until Adam names all the creatures.** To cut off a person's name is to end the bearer's existence, or to change a person's name is to indicate a shift in his character and standing before God. **JWR**



Name

You haven't done this before. Ask, **using my name**, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy. **John 16:24**

There is salvation in no one else! God has given **no other name** under heaven by which we must be saved. **Acts 4:12**

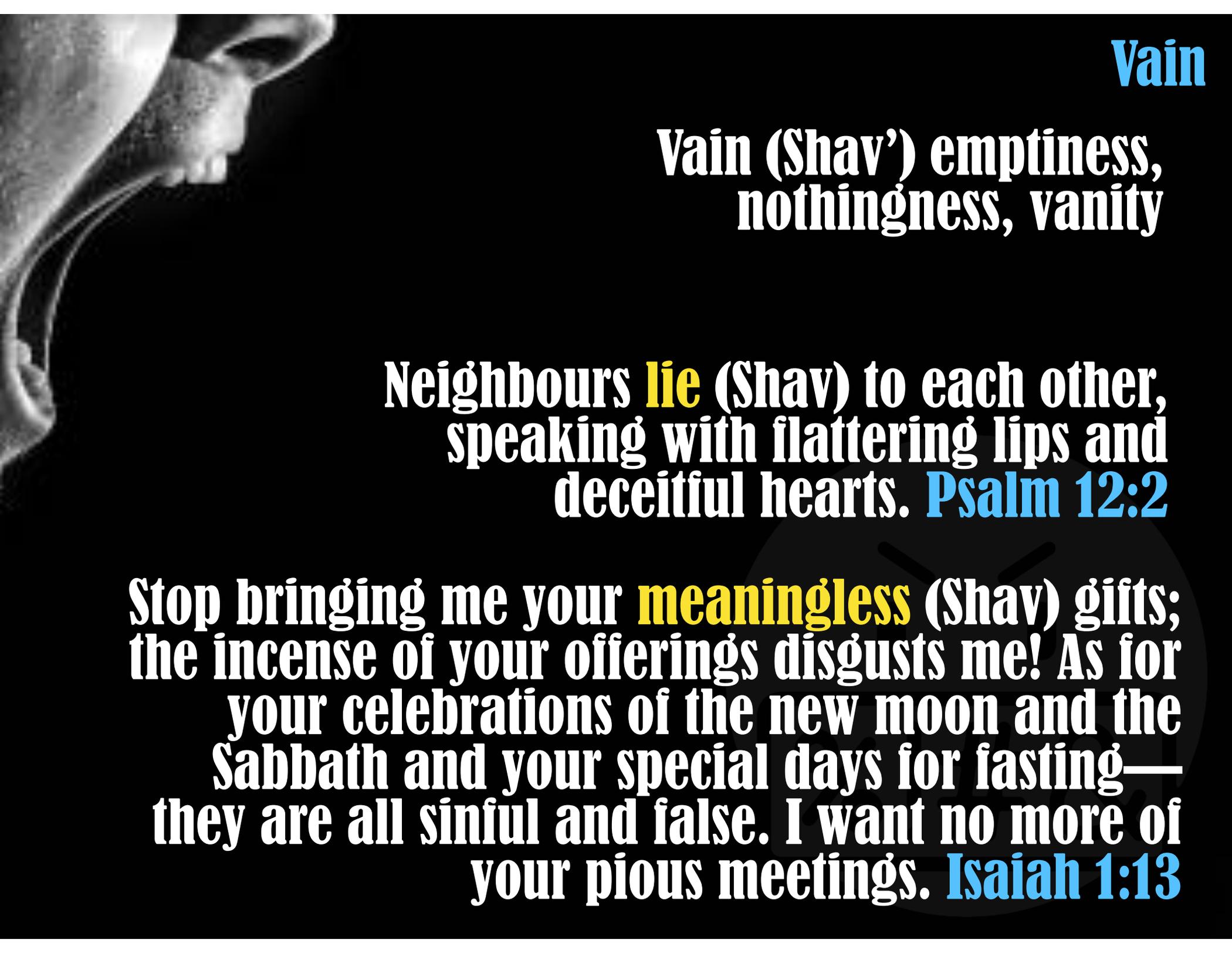
Then the **name of our Lord Jesus** will be honoured because of the way you live, **2 Thessalonians 1:12**

If we claim to be the people of God and **then live as if we are not**, we take His name in vain. If we claim to be Christians, and then live as if we are not, we take His name in vain. **J. Ligon Duncan**

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The Hebrew word commonly translated “take” in Exod 20:7 is נשא (nasa), meaning to “**bear**” or “**lift up**.” Invoking God’s “name” (שם; shem) means **bearing it**, just like Aaron was to “bear” (נשא; nasa) the names (שמות; shemot) of the Israelites” on his breastplate (Exod 28:29).





Vain

**Vain (Shav') emptiness,
nothingness, vanity**

**Neighbours lie (Shav) to each other,
speaking with flattering lips and
deceitful hearts. Psalm 12:2**

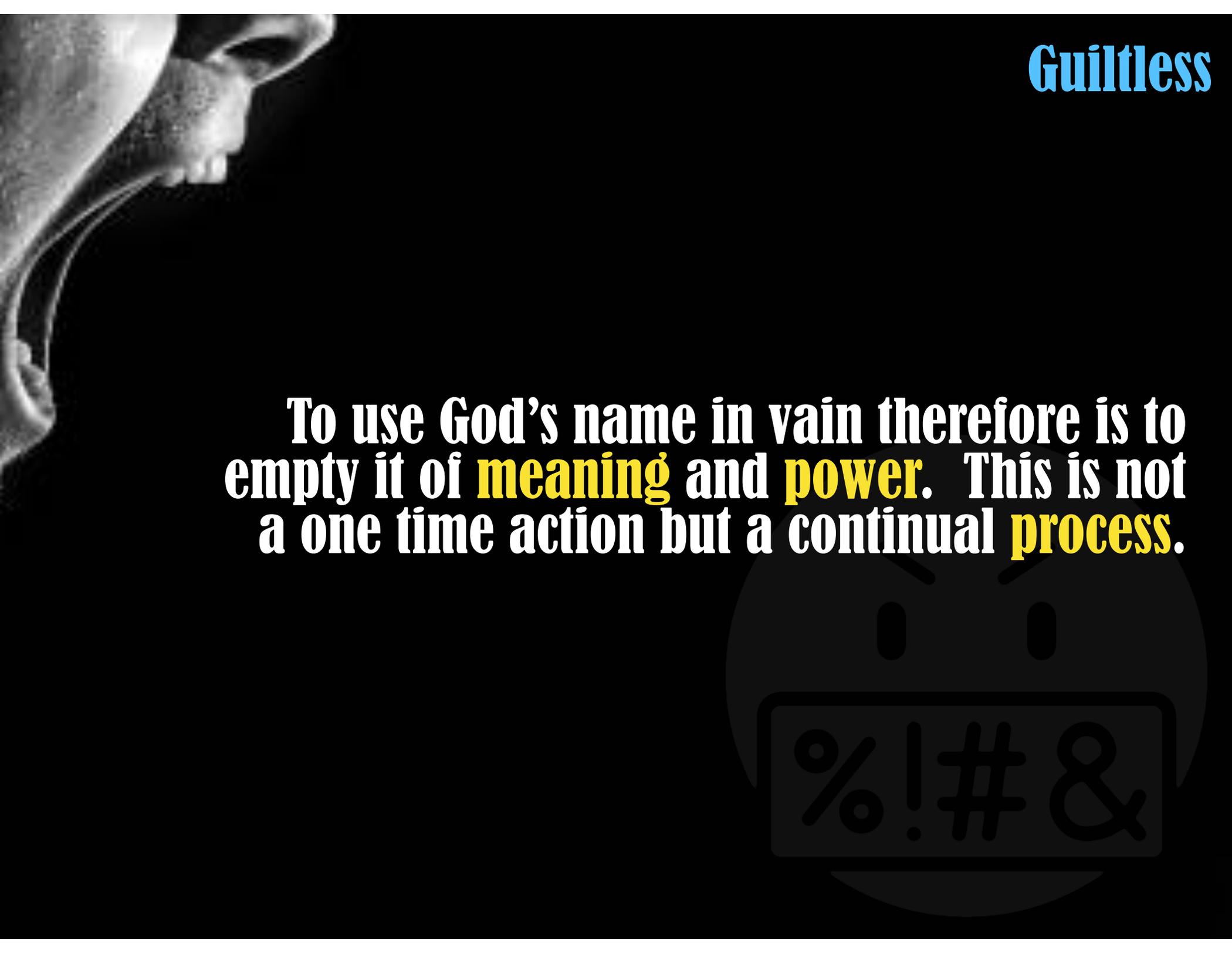
**Stop bringing me your meaningless (Shav) gifts;
the incense of your offerings disgusts me! As for
your celebrations of the new moon and the
Sabbath and your special days for fasting—
they are all sinful and false. I want no more of
your pious meetings. Isaiah 1:13**

You **hypocrites!** Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, “These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship is a **farce**, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.”

Matthew 15:7-9

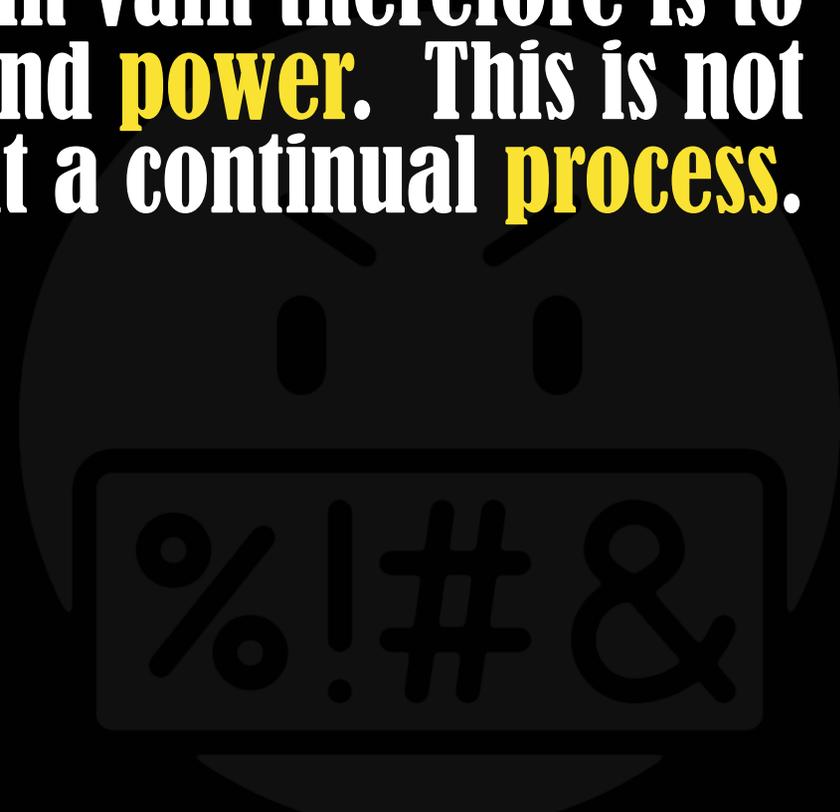
Then the disciples came to him and asked, “Do you realize you **offended** the Pharisees by what you just said?” **vs 12**

Often this word is used in contrast with the idea of sin (avon), and can therefore be understood to mean that the LORD **will not "clear"** one who swears falsely by His name. There is a sort of irony in this punishment: **If someone regards the LORD as "empty," so the LORD will not empty them of their guilt.** In other words, this is a midah k'neged midah ("measure for measure") punishment: When someone shows contempt for God, He returns the favour.



Guiltless

To use God's name in vain therefore is to empty it of **meaning and **power**. This is not a one time action but a continual **process**.**



No one one can commit the unforgivable sin without any **awareness** of it. The mere fact that you care about whether you have committed it or not is a sure and certain sign that you haven't! **A sin can only be "unforgivable" when the sinner refuses to seek forgiveness.** In other words, the sinner is so hard-hearted that he or she no longer cares if they have offended God or even believes they are in need of His forgiveness.

Dr. Robert Stackpole

There is in each of us a **dangerous temptation toward hypocrisy**, to be one thing but to pretend to be another. There are many within the church who are hypocrites, people who claim to be Christians but who are, in fact, unbelievers attempting to convince others (and perhaps themselves) that they are followers of Jesus Christ. **Tim Challies**



Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his **kindness** is intended to turn you from your sin? **Romans 2:4**

But because you are **stubborn** and **refuse** to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. **vs 5**

The Process of Hypocrisy

Self Glorification (**Name**)

Self Delusion (**Vanity**)

Self Determination (**Guiltless**)





The Process of Authenticity

Self Examination (**Name**)

Self Sacrifice (**Vanity**)

Self Service (**Guiltless**)



Hypocrites never ask if they are hypocrites



**A good person produces good things
from the treasury of a good heart,
and an evil person produces evil
things from the treasury of an evil
heart. And I tell you this, you must
give an account on judgment day for
every idle word you speak. **The words
you say will either acquit you or
condemn you. Matthew 12:35-37****

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