

Hallowed be Your Name

Jason Graham: The Disciples' Prayer Series

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The Disciples' Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (NKJV): In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hallowed Be Your Name

Why would Jesus tell us to pray “Hallowed be Your name”?

- Reveals God’s Nature
- Reveals God’s Worth (Worthiness) for honor and worship
- Reveals Action on our part

What does “Hallowed” mean?

Hallowed is a *verb*. I used to think that Jesus was simply describing God’s name. For example, “Father, your name is holy.” However, *holy* is an adjective. It is a describing word, and *hallowed*, on the other hand is an action word.

God, of course, is holy; however, that is not the fullness of what Jesus was expressing.

Hallowed, in the Greek is the word *hagiazó*.

- [Strong's Greek: 37. ἁγιάζω \(hagiazó\) -- To sanctify, to make holy, to consecrate, to set apart](#)
- **Meaning:** I make holy, treat as holy, set apart as holy, sanctify, hallow, purify.

Jesus is not merely pointing out that God’s name is holy. He is indicating that we must take action.

Our Father in heaven your name is:

- To be set apart...
- To be honored...
- To be acknowledged as holy...

...by us.

Why Acknowledge His Name as Holy?

*Because **he** is holy.*

What does it mean that God is holy? It means sacred or set apart. In other words, it means that God is **totally other than**. He is separate from anything else we can imagine. He is holy.

- [Strong's Hebrew: 6918. קָדוֹשׁ \(qadosh\) -- Holy, sacred, set apart](#)
 - Adjective form of the root: [Strong's Hebrew: 6944. קִדְשׁ \(qodesh\) -- Holiness, sacredness, sanctuary](#)

Thrice Holy

He is not only holy. He is thrice holy. We see, from the witness of two separate biblical visions of God’s throne room in heaven, that the seraphim (angelic creatures with six wings) had been calling this out for over 800 years during the time the Bible was being written. We have no reason to

assume that they are not saying it even now—nearly 2000 years later—and even thousands of years before these visions.

Isaiah 6:1-3 (NIV): In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

- Isaiah would have seen this vision around 740 BC (BCE)
 - <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/isaiah/6-1.htm>
 - Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges

Revelation 4:8 (NIV): Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.”

- John would have seen this vision around 90 AD (CE).
 - https://biblehub.com/topical/j/john's_vision_on_patmos.htm
 - Topical Encyclopedia

Over 800 years later, and they are still singing the same song. If we were face to face with him, I dare say we would be doing the same.

*Why say it three times?
Because saying it once can't express the fullness of it.*

*Why keep saying it for millennia?
Because saying it three times can't express the fullness of it.*

*And it isn't about the specific name of God that we use:
Father, YHWH, Adonai, Jehovah, Jesus, Yeshuah.*

*It is about who we are referring to when we use it:
The Thrice Holy One.*

The Name Above Every Name

It isn't about the specific name; however, Jesus does still say “Hallowed be your name.” So, what name is that? The name above every name.

Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV): Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth

and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

But wait, does this mean that it is literally only the English word “Jesus” that is the name above every name? Of course not. Although English is the most spoken language in the world, it is still spoken by less than 20% of the people in the world (<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/world/#people-and-society>) –leaving over 80% of the world unable to know this specific English word.

However, Jesus was given the name above every name. So, when referring to him, his name, every name of his, is to be acknowledged as holy. Why? Because he is holy.

What is this Name?

What does scripture say about the name of Jesus—the name above every name?

- Where did he get this name that is above every name that Paul mentioned in Philippians 2?
 - **John 17:11 (NIV):** I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of **your name**, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.
- What was prophesied about his name long before he came to Earth?
 - **Isaiah 9:6 (NIV):** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 - This was a prophecy about his first advent.

As a teacher, I like my clearly defined lists, but God does not always fit into them. When we read things in the scripture like the “three are one.” And that the son given to us will be called both Counselor, a name given to the Holy Spirit, and Everlasting Father, all we can do is resolve to say “Your name is to be acknowledged as holy, Father/Holy Spirit/Jesus/Lord. You are totally ‘other than’.”

Again, the point is *who* we are referring to. His name is to be acknowledged as Holy because he is holy. Each of the names we could call him is to be set apart as holy because the one who bears it is holy.

What Else is Jesus Called?

Let’s venture further into the vision that John had to reveal Jesus Christ.

Revelation 19:11-16 (NIV): I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “He will rule them with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: king of kings and lord of lords.

- This was a prophecy about his second advent.

Jesus is given as many names as there are number of verses in this passage.

1. Faithful
2. True
3. One only he knows
4. Word of God
5. King of Kings
6. Lord of Lords

Hebrews 1:3 (NIV): The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

*Remember, Jesus is the exact representation of the Father.
His name is to be acknowledged as holy!*

How to Hallow God's Name

It's one thing to say that it requires action on our part and to say that the goal is to "set His Name apart," but how do we do that in practice? What things do we do or not do to accomplish setting apart the Name of God?

THE REST OF THIS LESSON QUOTES HEAVILY FROM THE BOOKS OF THE LAW. PLEASE SEE [APPENDIX 1: TEACHING THE LAW WHILE NOT UNDER THE LAW](#) FOR GREATER CLARITY ON THIS PRACTICE.

For now, suffice it to say that, although we are no longer under the law, God's moral will has not changed. We are, for example, still expected not to steal, not to murder, and to honor God.

There are at least three ways that we hallow God's Name:

1. Do not profane his name.
2. Praise and worship him.
3. Be holy ourselves.

Do Not Profane His Name

These passages of scripture give us an idea of how to hallow God's name.

Leviticus 19:12 (NIV): "Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

Leviticus 22:32 (NIV): Do not profane my holy name, for I must be acknowledged as holy [hallowed] by the Israelites. I am the LORD, who made you holy [hallowed you]

Simply put **to profane** means “**to make common.**” Other ways to say it would be **to defile, pollute, or dishonor.** This is the opposite of hallowing God’s name.

- [Strong's Hebrew: 2490. חָלַל \(chalal\) -- To profane, defile, pollute, desecrate, begin](#)
- In other words, taking something that is supposed to be set apart and consecrated, but making it common—like everything else.

How do we avoid profaning the name of God? According to these scriptures we:

1. Honor his name with acknowledgement.
 - a. “I must be acknowledged as holy...”
2. Honor his name with truthfulness.
 - a. Do not swear falsely by his name.
 - b. Never invoke God's name to support a claim that is knowingly false or uncertain.
 - c. Do not swear by God's name and then lie—in fact, avoid swearing on His name altogether.
3. Honor his name with reverence.
 - a. **Exodus 20:7 (NIV):** “[You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.](#)”
 - b. Do not misuse his name (i.e. take his name in vain).
 - c. Avoid obvious misuses of God’s name, such as cursing with his name and using phrases like “I swear to God...”—especially when used for selfish, self-righteous, or vengeful purposes.
 - d. While many Christians may refrain from overtly misusing God’s name, it is often misapplied in more subtle ways, particularly as a tool for manipulation.
 - i. This includes telling others that God expects them to act in a way that aligns with your personal desires.
 - ii. Another form of misuse is invoking God’s name to impose guilt or exert spiritual control. For example, warning someone that if they engage in secret actions, God will reveal them to you—instilling fear as a means of influencing behavior.
 - iii. This type of manipulation and control is closely related to witchcraft.

Praise & Worship Him

How else do we hallow God’s name—acknowledging his holiness?

The most natural reaction to God’s holiness is praising and worshipping him. These scriptures make it clear that an acknowledgment of God’s holiness leads to this heart response.

Psalms 30:4 (NIV): [Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.](#)

Psalms 97:12 (NIV): [Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.](#)

Psalms 29:2 (NIV): [Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.](#)

Psalms 96:9 (NIV): Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.

What Does it Mean “To Worship”?

The term “worship” in English originates from the combination of “worthy” and the suffix “-ship,” which signifies a state, condition, or quality. Essentially, “worship” conveys the act of recognizing something as deserving of honor or reverence—being worthy.

There are several words in the Greek that are translated in some way to mean “worship.”

Here is a quick list of the deeper meaning of some of these words:

- To show respect, reverent fear, and awe.
- To bow down or prostrate oneself.
- To serve or do service to (associated with priests ministering sacred services in the temple).
- Practicing religion.
- To show piety or be devout: true sincerity of devotion, reverence, humility, and moral integrity. To have deep and unwavering commitment to something.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC SEE [APPENDIX 2: WORD STUDY ON WORSHIP](#).

In Spirit and In Truth

Despite all the study we can do on what it means “to worship” God, I can’t teach you “how” to worship God.

*“You can no more teach someone how to worship
than you can teach them how to fall in love.”
~ Pastor David Nichols*

I can’t teach you how, but I can tell you where worship will occur.

John 4:23-24 (NIV): Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

NOTE: the word for worship here is *proskuneó*, as explained earlier.

*For True Worship to be expressed in your life, one thing is for certain:
It must come from a place that is **in Spirit** and **in Truth**.*

*What does this look like? I imagine it looks a lot like **falling in love**.*

Be Holy

Finally, one more primary way that we hallow God's name is to be holy ourselves.

We are called to be holy. God says we are to be holy in the context of not profaning His name. In this way, living holy is a way that we hallow God's name.

Leviticus 21:6 (NIV): They must be holy to their God and must not profane the name of their God. Because they present the food offerings to the LORD, the food of their God, they are to be holy.

This passage was spoken about the Aaronic priesthood, but we are now a royal priesthood to God according to 1 Peter 2 and Revelation 5.

- **1 Peter 2:9 (NIV):** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
- **Revelation 5:9-10 (NIV):** And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

Why Be Holy?

Before discussing *how* the scripture tells us to be holy, let's be clear on *why* the scripture tells us to be holy.

1. Because God is holy.
 - a. As is clearly stated in Leviticus and echoed by the Apostle Peter in the New Testament.
 - b. **Leviticus 11:45 (NIV):** I am the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.
 - c. **1 Peter 1:16 (NIV):** for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
2. Because we have reverence for God.
 - a. **2 Corinthians 7:1 (NIV):** Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.
3. Because of God's mercy and to truly worship him.
 - a. **Romans 12:1 (NIV):** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

How to Be Holy

There are at least two aspects of our life where we need to achieve holiness, and we need to understand how we achieve each of them:

1. We must be holy in nature.
2. We must be holy in conduct.

In Nature

Make no mistake: God makes us Holy in Nature. He changes our inner man. He even pointed this out in the Law.

- **Leviticus 22:32 (NIV):** Do not profane my holy name, for I must be acknowledged as holy by the Israelites. I am the LORD, who made you holy
- **Ephesians 1:7 (NIV):** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace
- **Hebrews 13:12 (NIV):** And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.

He has redeemed us in our spirits. Inwardly, we have been “restored to the original state of affairs” just as in the Garden of Eden before the fall of mankind.

In Conduct

God makes us holy in nature, then commands us to be holy in conduct.

1 Peter 1:15-16 (NIV): But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Peter is quoting Leviticus here, but he frames it with being ***holy in all that we do***.

- Strong's Greek: 391. ἀναστροφή (anastrophé) -- Conduct, behavior, manner of life
- *anastrophé* (from 303 /aná, "down to up" and 4762 /stréphō, "turn") – properly, *up-turning*; (figuratively) **change of outward behavior from an "up-turn" of inner beliefs** (presuppositions, etc.).

Because I am holy, I will be holy.

Foundational Concepts

How do we become holy in all we do?

There are a few things we must understand about being holy in conduct before answering that question.

1. Perfecting holiness is a process.
 - a. Jesus made it clear that our being “holy” or “perfect,” as he put it, has to do with maturing by going through stages to reach an end goal.
 - b. **Matthew 5:48 (NIV):** Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
 - c. Strong's Greek: 5046. τέλειος (teleios) -- Perfect, complete, mature, full-grown
 - i. Maturity in Christian Character
 - ii. Cognate: 5046 *teleios* (an adjective, derived from 5056 /*télos*, "consummated goal") – mature (consummated) from going through the necessary stages to reach the end-goal, i.e. developed into a consummating completion by fulfilling the necessary process (spiritual journey). See 5056

(telos). [This root (tel-) means "reaching the end (aim)." It is well-illustrated with the old pirate's telescope, unfolding (extending out) one stage at a time to function at full-strength (capacity effectiveness).] [Copyright © 2021 by Discovery Bible](#)

- iii. Paul used the same root word in 2 Corinthians 7:1 when he said that we should be **“perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.”**
- 2. The Holy Spirit helps us in this process.
 - a. **John 14:16 (NIV):** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another [advocate](#) to help you and be with you forever
 - i. [Strong's Greek: 3875. παράκλητος \(paraklétos\) -- Advocate, Helper, Comforter, Counselor](#)
 - ii. The Holy Spirit is known as the “paraclete.” One who comes along side of us to help.
 - b. **Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV):** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and [self-control](#). Against such things there is no law.
 - i. It is fruit, or evidence, of the Spirit in our lives that we have *self-control*. Note that it does *not* say Spirit-control.
 - ii. He helps us to control our own behavior.
- 3. Grace teaches us in this process.
 - a. **Titus 2:11-12 (NIV):** For the [grace of God](#) has appeared that offers salvation to all people. [It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age](#)
- 4. The Father predestined us for the end goal of this process.
 - a. **Romans 8:29 (NIV):** For those God foreknew he also [predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son](#), that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
- 5. We have each other in this process.
 - a. **Galatians 6:1-2 (NIV):** Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted. [Carry each other’s burdens](#), and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Practical Steps

- 1. Be a living sacrifice (dedicate your life to God).
 - a. **Romans 12:1 (NIV):** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, [in view of God’s mercy](#), to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, [holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship](#).
 - b. In other words, unlike the Old Testament ritual of the priests sacrificing animals in their “ceremonial service” or “worship” to God, our lives are to be a continual, living expression of service and worship to God: total surrender.
 - c. This is living holy unto the Lord.
- 2. Peter gives us several exhortations for our behavior in context of telling us to “be holy in all we do.”

- a. **1 Peter 1:13-25 (NIV):** ¹³Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” ¹⁷Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God. ²²Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, ²⁵but the word of the Lord endures forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.
- b. Have a mind that is alert and fully sober.
 - i. This is encouraging us to be self-controlled and to remain vigilant in the spirit.
- c. Set your hope on grace.
 - i. Never lose site in this process that we are fully reliant on the grace of God.
 - ii. **2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV):** But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.
 - iii. Also, as stated above, grace teaches us to say no to ungodliness.
- d. Be obedient children, by not conforming to our former evil desires.
 - i. Again, we are helped by the Spirit and taught by Grace to do this.
- e. Live as foreigners here.
 - i. **Philippians 3:20 (NIV):** But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ
 - ii. If we live like heaven is our home, then it will have a great impact on our holy behavior here.
 - iii. We do this from a place of reverent fear for God, since he judges everyone’s work impartially.
- f. Love one another deeply from the heart.
 - i. It is hard to find a topic in scripture that does not come back to **love**. As a matter of fact, love has been a recurring theme in every message in this series so far.

In truth, this “Holiness in Conduct” can only be the result of those who have fallen in Love with God over love of self and love of the world. Why else would we choose to deny our own passions?

In this *téleios* process of becoming perfect like our Father, let’s take comfort in a few thoughts:

1. Achieving holiness in conduct is not a condition FOR salvation. It is a process BECAUSE of salvation.
2. It is a process of learning to Love God.
 - a. **John 14:15 (NIV):** “If you love me, keep my commands.
3. The problem is not if we fail when we try, but if we fail to try.
4. God enjoys us in our weakness and does not see our immaturity as rebellion. He knows our frame better than we do.

In Summary

- We must set His name apart (acknowledge that it is holy)
- We must recognize that his name is holy because he is holy (thrice holy). It is about whose name it is, not just the name itself.
- We hallow his name by:
 - Not profaning his name.
 - Praising and worshipping him.
 - Being holy in conduct.
 - Which we accomplish through a process of Holy Spirit helping us and Grace teaching us.

APPENDIX 1: Teaching the Law While Not Under the Law

Consider these scriptures before getting into my explanation.

- We could not be made righteous under the law.
 - **Romans 3:19-21 (NIV):** Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.
- Jesus said that the Law (and Prophets) "hang on" love.
 - **Matthew 22:34-40 (NIV):** Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."
- God's moral law and expectation of righteousness existed before the law and was **not** established because of the Law. Therefore, his morality, character, and expectations of behavior remain constant.
 - **Genesis 4:7 (NIV):** If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.
 - **Romans 2:14-15 (NIV):** (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.)
 - **Hebrews 13:8 (NIV):** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- Just because grace is increased if we sin, we have no excuse to sin. We were freed from sin; therefore, we should live free from it. This looks very much like living the way God's moral law directs us to.
 - **Romans 5:18-21 (NIV):** Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - **Romans 6:1-2 (NIV):** What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

- We are not left lawless. The Law of the Spirit of Life set us free from our debt to the Law of Moses and left us with one continuing debt: to love.
 - **Romans 8:1-2 (NIV):** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.
 - **Romans 13:8-10 (NIV):** Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Many of the scriptures quoted in this “Hallowed Be Your Name” lesson come from the Books of the Law. Are we still under the law? No. But that doesn’t mean God’s words in the Law should be dismissed. God’s moral will remains constant just as much after the law as it did before the law.

Being free from the Law does not mean we can now do what it forbids—murder, adultery, stealing—God forbid! His commandments still reveal His will for how we honor Him and treat others.

We now obey out of love for God, recognizing and thanking Him for the righteousness given to us through Christ. We could never be made righteous by the Law, but now, under the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, we follow His will out of love—or rather we follow his will “by love.”

That includes honoring His name under the Law of Christ, because loving Him means revering His name. This does not mean we “keep the law,” but it does mean we walk in love toward God and man. In so doing, we will inherently not breach many of the laws that “hang on” loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves.

APPENDIX 2: Word Study On Worship

There are several words in the Greek that are translated in some way to mean “worship.” Let’s look at some of them.

- To show respect, reverent fear, and awe.
 - [Strong's Greek: 4576. σέβωμαι \(sebó\)](#) -- [To worship, to revere, to venerate](#)
 - **Acts 16:14 (NIV):** One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message.
 - **Acts 17:17 (NIV):** So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.
 - **Acts 18:7 (NIV):** Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God.
- To bow down or prostrate oneself.
 - [Strong's Greek: 4352. προσκυνέω \(proskuneó\)](#) -- [To worship, to bow down, to prostrate oneself](#)
 - This is the word used about the wise men worshipping Jesus, and the word used by the devil when he was tempting Jesus to worship him.
 - **Matthew 2:11 (NIV):** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
 - **Matthew 4:8-10 (NIV):** Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”
- To serve or do service to (associated with priests ministering sacred services in the temple).
 - [Strong's Greek: 3000. λατρεύω \(latreuó\)](#) -- [To serve, to worship](#)
 - **Romans 12:1 (NIV):** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
- Practicing religion. This word is translated as “worship” and “religion” in the NT, because practicing a religion is worshipping the object of that religion—in our case God.
 - [Strong's Greek: 2356. θρησκεία \(thréskeia\)](#) -- [Religion, Worship](#)
 - **James 1:26-27 (NIV):** Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.
 - Again, the word “religion” here can also be translated as “worship.”
 - This scripture gives us very special insight into God’s heart. Do you want God to accept your religious service as true worship? Then take care of those who can’t take care of themselves.

- **Proverbs 19:17 (NIV):** Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them [repay them] for what they have done.
- To show piety or be devout: true sincerity of devotion, reverence, humility, and moral integrity. To have deep and unwavering commitment to something.
 - [Strong's Greek: 2151. εὐσεβέω \(eusebeó\)](#) -- [To show piety, to be devout, to act reverently](#)
 - **Acts 17:23 (NIV):** For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship [or show devotion to]—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

Here are a couple of Hebrew words translated as “worship” in the OT.

- Shachah (שָׁחָה) – This is the most common word for worship, meaning to bow down or prostrate oneself in homage, whether before God or a superior.
- Abad (עָבַד) – Often translated as "serve," this word conveys the idea of worship through service and labor.