

# The Ten Commandments

## Third Commandment: Don't Take My Name in Vain

### Exodus 20:7

לֹא תִשָּׂא אֶת שֵׁם ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשׁוֹן

"You shall not take the name of the L-rd, your G-d, in vain..."

### Maimonides Negative commandment #62

The 62nd prohibition is that we are forbidden to swear a *sh'vuas shav* (a vain oath).

The source of this commandment is G-d's statement, "Do not take the name of G-d your L-rd in vain."

[A *sh'vuas shav* is] when one swears that something is the opposite of what it actually is; or that something exists, when in fact it cannot; or that he will violate a *mitzvah* of the Torah. So too if one swears to an obvious and undisputed fact, such as swearing to G-d that anything which is slaughtered will die. This is also considered a *sh'vuas shav*.