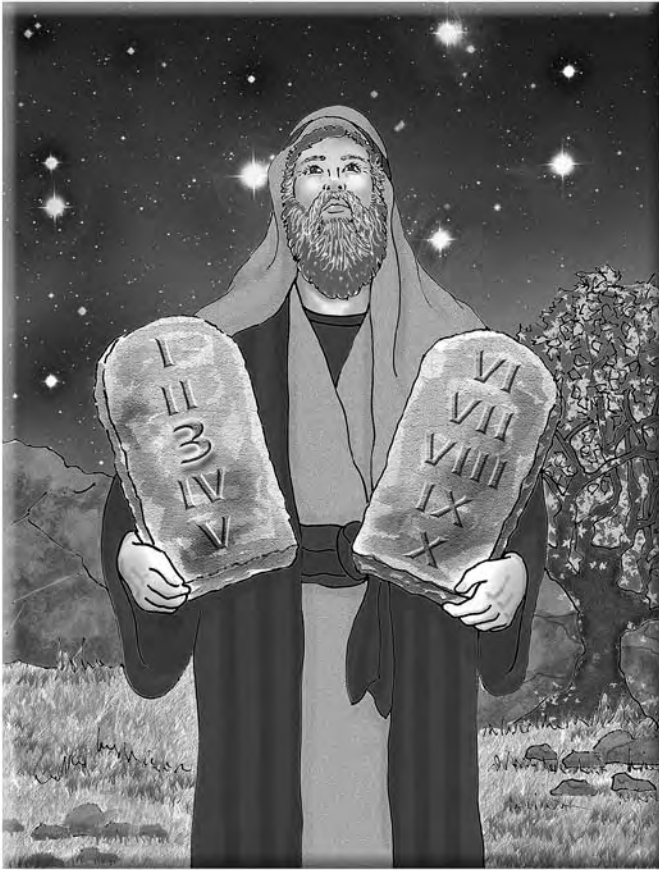


The THIRD Commandment



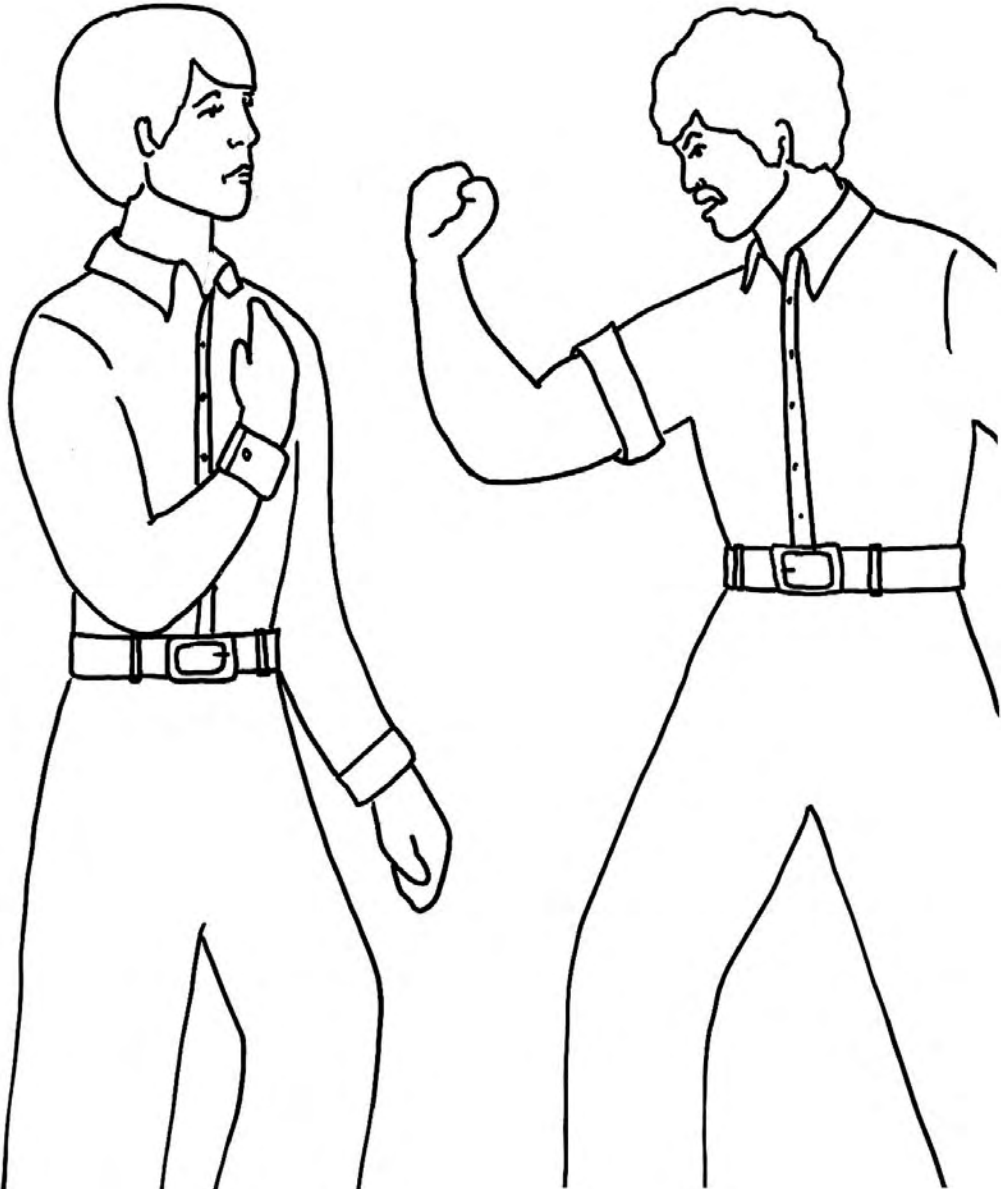
“Thou shalt not take the name
of the Lord thy God in vain . . .”

Exodus 20:7

God's 3rd Commandment to Israel was, 49
"Thou shalt not take the name of
the Lord thy God in vain . . ." Exodus 20:7
This was another very important commandment
given to the Jews. God is pleased if we truly
understand what it means.



Taking God's name "in vain" can mean many things. One meaning is when we hear people say God's name as a swear word — using His name with disrespect.

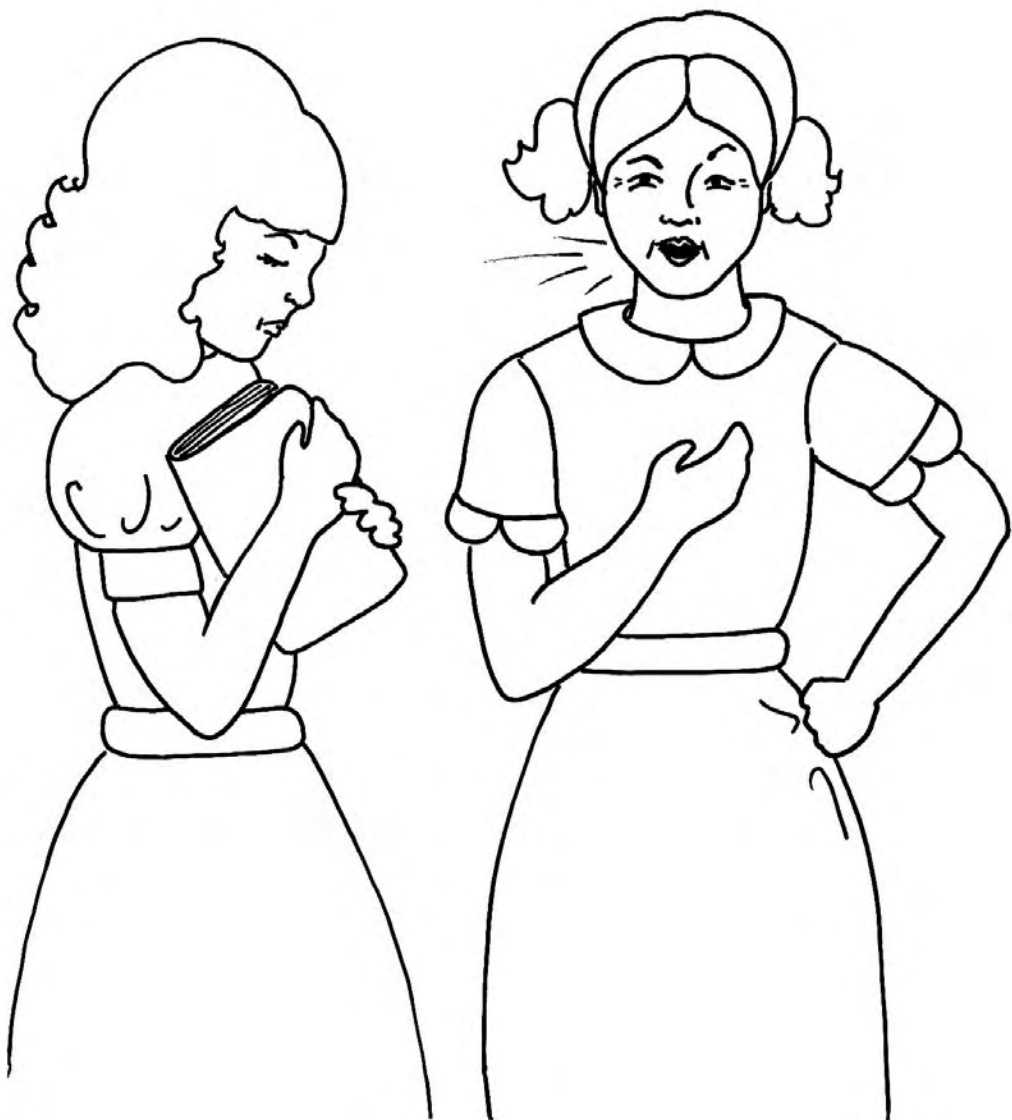


Taking God's name "in vain" by swearing is called "profanity."

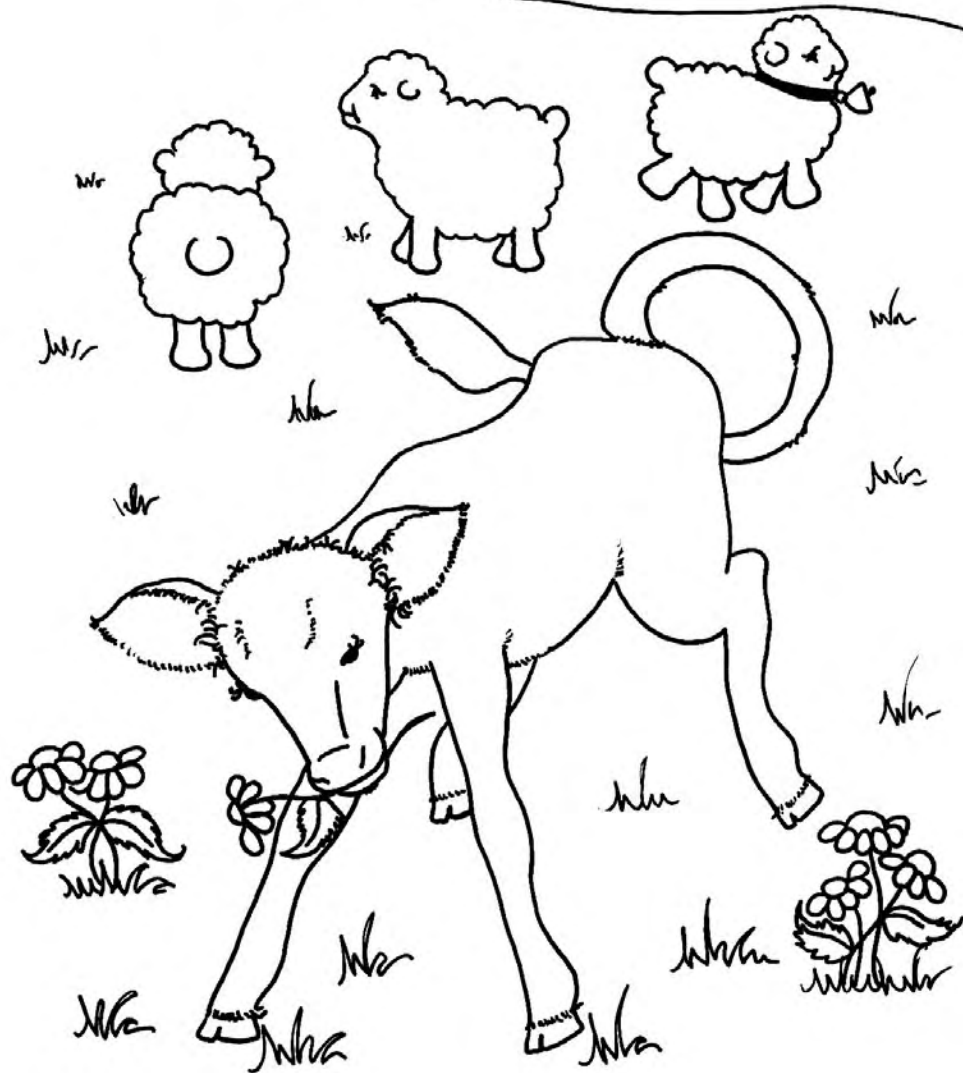
When people swear, it shows that they really don't know and love God the way we do. Soon they will learn to truly love God, when His Kingdom is established on earth as it is in heaven.



Taking God's name "in vain" can also happen when someone says something evil or untrue about God's character. Some people laugh about God and tell jokes about Him. When people make fun of God or say bad things about Him, this is called "blasphemy."



We learn to love and respect God
more and more every day, because we know
He is the loving Creator of all things.
We show God how much we love Him by
respecting His holy name and character.



54

Draw a picture of one of your favorite things in God's creation — like flowers, birds, animals or any other thing you can think of that God created for us to enjoy.

One other way that God's name is taken "in vain" is when someone says they love God, and yet, they live bad lives — hurting others and being prideful and selfish.



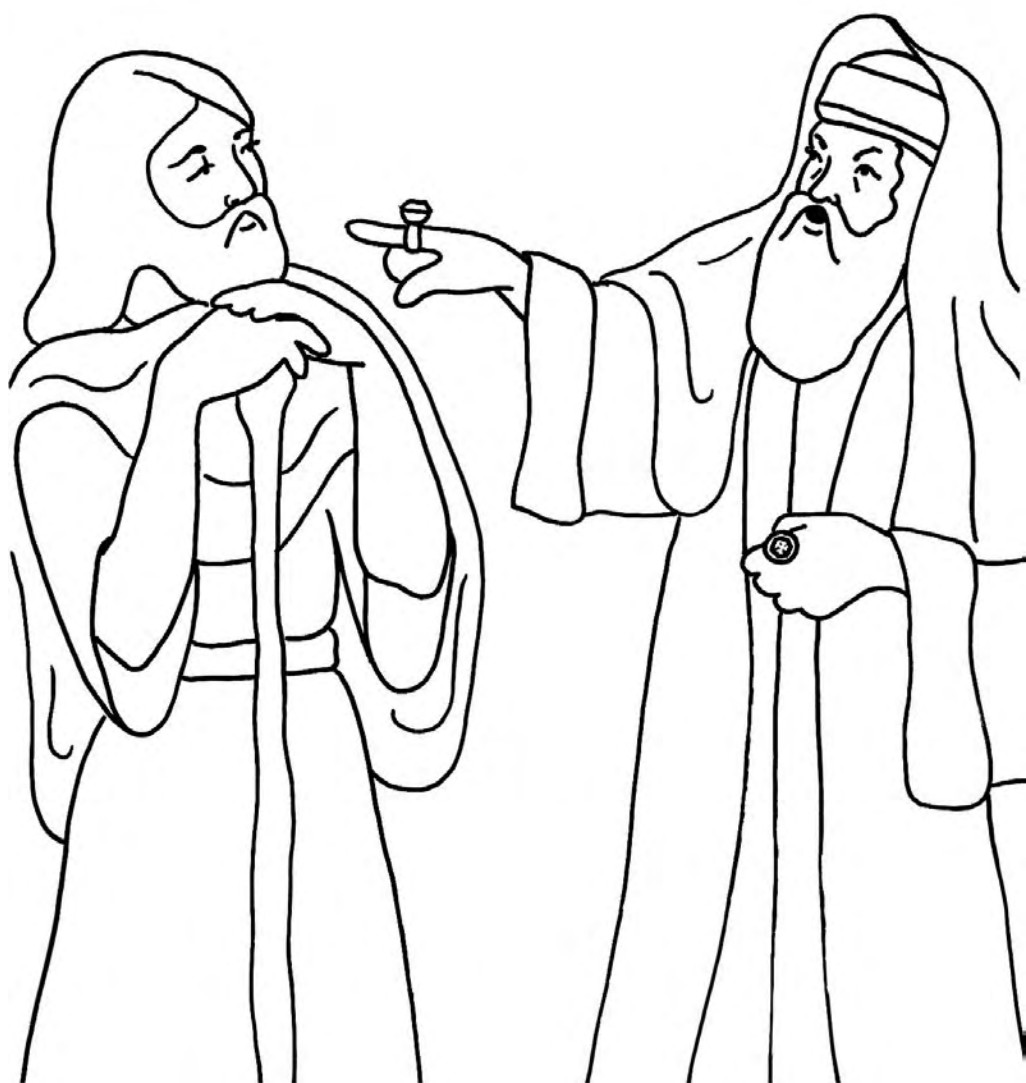
Jesus spoke about people who claimed to worship and love God, but who were very bad in their hearts. He called these people "hypocrites."



The Scribes and Pharisees of Jesus' day were outwardly very holy, but Jesus could see in their hearts that they were prideful, selfish men.



Only Jesus and God can judge people's hearts now. We must love people and be forgiving, because we do not know their heart intentions. Most people do not intend to hurt others by being selfish. In God's Kingdom, almost everyone will learn to be good Christian examples.



2 Corinthians 3:6 teaches Christians that they are not “bound by the law” of the Jews. But, even though this is true, they do live by the “spirit of the law.” We should be good Christian examples, so that we can show everyone what it is like to really love God and His Son, Jesus.



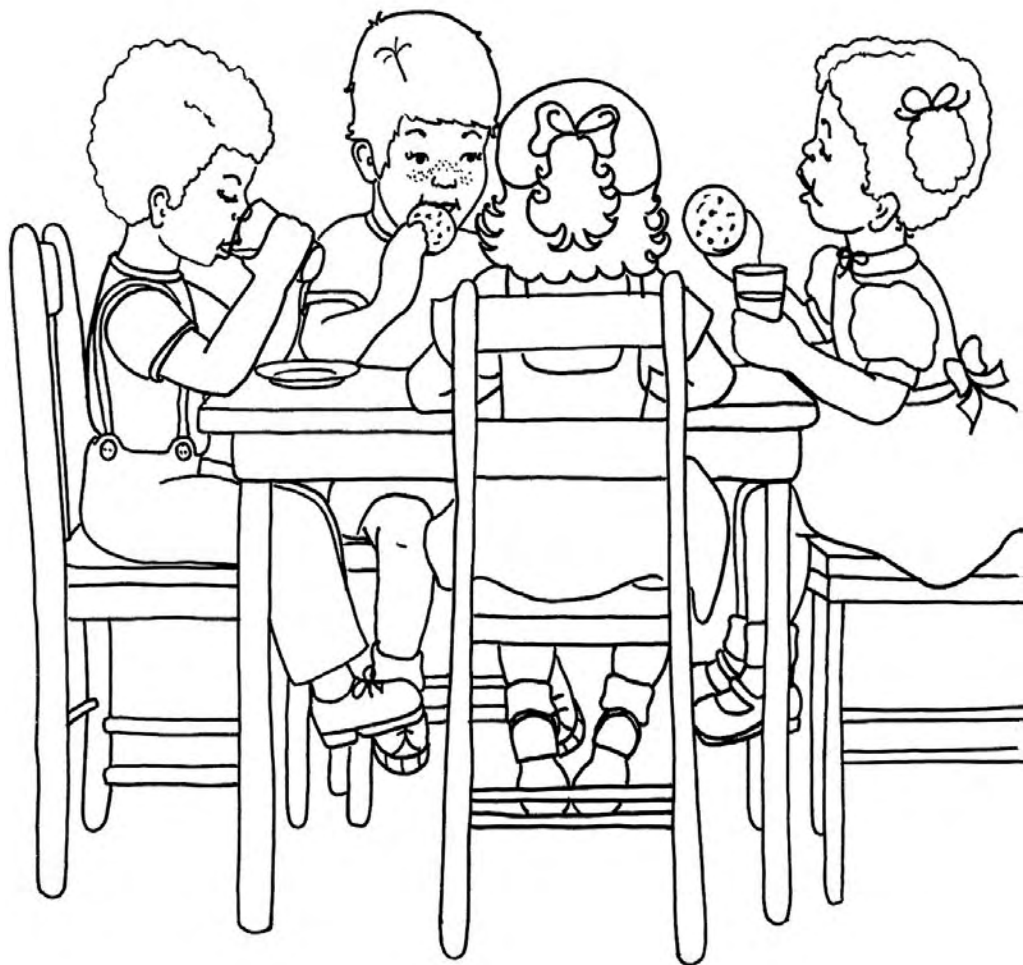
We are good examples to others when
we smile and are courteous . . .



... and when we control our anger
and learn to love others by
forgiving them when they
apologize for their mistakes.



We are also good examples when we tell others of all the good things God has done for all of mankind through His faithful Son, Jesus . . .



... and also when we take good care of all that we have been given.

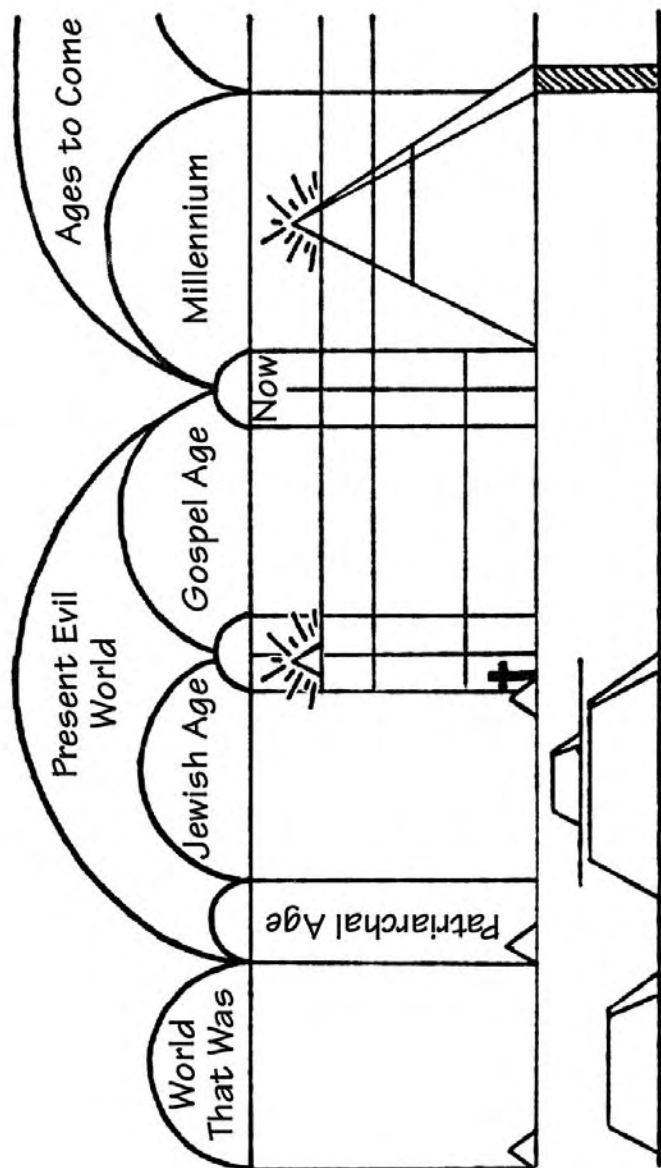


- 64 Draw a picture of you being a good example to others: like cleaning your room, taking time to talk to someone who is lonely, brushing your teeth for a pleasant smile or helping your parents with chores around the house. By being good examples, we glorify God's name.

In God's Kingdom on earth, all the people of the world will learn of God's loving ways and will praise His name. They will never take God's name "in vain" again.

65





On the chart,
put this Hebrew
child in Jesus'
time period.
Page 66



On the chart,
put this child
in the time period
we now live in.
Page 66

