christian advance archives

# advance in the word – don’t profane the name – 10/08/19

**DON’T PROFANE THE NAME**

Ever had someone represent you, or your family or your business or your ministry in a way that brought shame to your name? They didn’t give it their best and made you look weak, incompetent or even flawed in character? Maybe it was perceived falsely? Maybe it was brought through misunderstanding? Maybe it was your own sinful actions which brought disgust in the eyes of others. That’s reality. That’s real life, pre-Christ and even post-Christ.

In Ezekiel, God is making known in no uncertain terms that the Israelites idolatry and exile has given the world a false view of who He is. They have profaned His name among the nations. (see Ezekiel 20:9,14,22,39,44; 36:20,21,22,23; 39:7,25; 43:7-8) it makes Him seem like a weak God who couldn’t deliver His people in their time of trouble.

One’s name in the Bible was more than a label to distinguish them from their brothers or sisters. Your name was your character and it carried with it a reputation. God’s name is to be exalted among the nations. Held Holy. He is Holy. He is Almighty! He is not helpless against Babylonians, your sin nature, nor in dealing with that one person who is a thorn in your side at work.

The Israelites (like us) were profaning God’s name. They were causing the watching world to think wrongly about Him and His capabilities. Walking in obedience and faith hallows God’s name. It shows a watching world He is LORD. Walking your talk makes holy God’s name among your neighbors and the nations. Singularity of life lived by His word, promises, purposes and design hold up His Name for all to see. Witnessing to God’s true character. Giving your all, giving your best, brings honor to the Name. It hallows His Name. Don’t profane His name by living outside the will of God.