

**For My Name's Sake:  
God's Commitment to His Own Name**  
Matthew 6:9; Isaiah 48:9-11

Thesis: We should constantly be comparing lists of characteristics about God to determine if qualities are the same, different, or overlapping. This is especially important when states seem contrary to each other. Isaiah 48:9-11, uncovers God's love for us and his commitment to His own glory.

Introduction:

1. Some people say they have nothing but their name. (Matthew 6:9; Exodus 3:15)
  - a. **"This is my name for ever.** "The Alone Existent"—"He that is, and was, and is to come" (Rev. 1:4, 8; 4:8; 11:17; 16:5)."<sup>1</sup>
  - b. I AM, not I Was.
2. God is committed to Himself, to His name and to His person, first and foremost.
  - I. Observation of the text (Isaiah 48:9-11)
    - A. God refers to His radical commitment His own praise six times
    - B. How do these relate to each other? The progression of God's passion for His glory
    - C. God expresses His patience with and love for us six times (Isaiah 48:9-11)
    - D. The foundation of His love for us is His commitment to Himself
  - II. Application:
    - A. Love for people is not the most foundational thing in God's being. Underneath His love for us is His commitment to Himself.
    - B. God is angry.
    - C. Why is He angry?
    - D. We still need to be refined because we continue to profane His name. (Romans 1:18, Romans 2:5; Isaiah 53:4-5; Romans 3:25)

Conclusion:

1. God is love and indeed His love towards us has been demonstrated in the sacrifice of His Son on the cross.
2. But the sacrifice is in response as a resolution to His anger, hence a sacrifice.

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<sup>1</sup> Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Ed.). (1909). *Exodus* (Vol. 1). London; New York: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

## Questions for Reflection

1. What does it mean for God to say that he acts, “for my name’s sake,” or, “for the sake of my praise,” or, “for my own sake”?
2. Based on these verses, how does his commitment to his own glory relate to his love for his people?
3. God lovingly defers his anger in verse 9, but the restraining of his anger is not the resolution of his anger. Can you think of other verses in Isaiah that tell us how the problem of God’s righteous anger is resolved for the believer?