

「誓ってはならない」
—第三戒とマタイ福音書—

伊藤明生

ABSTRACT Akio ITO, ‘The Prohibition of Oaths: The Third Commandment and the Gospel According to Matthew’. The present study attempts to locate the prohibition of oaths in Matthew's gospel within the broad context of contemporary discussions concerning the third commandment, which, to the best of the author's knowledge, has not yet attracted sufficient attention. Although the third commandment of the Decalogue simply prohibits vain uses of the divine name, certain Jews (e.g., Philo and Josephus) understood it as referring to vain oath-takings. Thus, their concern to keep the divine name sacred and holy is evidenced in the writings of Philo, Josephus, and the Dead Sea Scrolls in such a way as to regulate proper uses of the divine name, especially in oath-takings. Although Matthew and James simply prohibit oath-takings, such Jewish casuistic discussions concerning oath-takings seem to lie behind the prohibitions. And though Matthew and James are not explicit about such a background for the prohibition of oaths, it makes good sense to read them as if they were fully aware of it. This paper argues that both Matthew and James can be interpreted as criticizing misunderstandings of the third commandment and not as prohibiting oaths as such. In doing so, both Matthew and James seem to propose a different way to keep the divine names holy and sacred.