



# THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

NO OTHER GODS

## Series – 10 Commandments

setting – at the Mountain of God

- God has taken action:
  - delivered from Egypt & slavery
  - led, fed, brought them here
  - people responded to God....

Exodus 19:7-8 “So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8</sup> All the people answered together and said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do.” And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD”

First 4 Commands – Relating to God

Last 6 Commands – Relating to One Another

Deut. 5:6-10 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>7</sup> You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>8</sup> You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>9</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>10</sup> but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.”

## 1. I Am the Lord Your God

- have a covenant with you, chosen you
- took action to deliver you
- you have responded to me
  - a) placing God in authority
    - no mistake who is in charge
  - b) declaring the covenant relationship
    - relationship in response to God's invitation requires our participation

## 2. No Other Gods Before Me

### a) history from Egypt

- many temples, gods, belief systems
- gods of Egyptians promised....
- worship involved pleasing deity through many practices

### b) no other means none!

- God establishes first that his place in their lives, worship, trust, practice must be first and foremost.

- Matt. 22:36-38 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment.”

c) worship reveals your heart here

- all of us worship something

- where your time, talents and treasure are found – there is your heart

- Matt. 6:21 – treasure & heart connected

- what guides your decisions, what you pour your life into, what influences your choices – that is where your worship is.

d) no add on spirituality or substitutions

- clear it's not God, and these other.....

- God is saying – I am your God, your source of hope, deliverance, salvation, strength, healing, help – it is found in Me!

## 2. Deal with Idols

a) covers the options fully

- above, below, water, universe
- do not exchange the worship of the creator for the creation
- my experience in Asia
- Rom. 1:21-23

<sup>21</sup> “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts”

- ‘do not bow down’ – take part in honoring or worshiping an idol
- ‘do not serve them’ – have any part of your actions or choices influenced by them

b) important information here

- *we were created in the image of God*
- Gen 1:27 “<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

- designed to be a reflection of the goodness and glory of God. When we love, forgive, seek justice, pursue truth, are generous etc., we reflect our creator

- *Jesus is the Image of God*

- Col. 1:15 “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation”

- John 14:9 “Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” ”

c) clear statement

- God is jealous!

- this adoption, love relationship is exclusive, guarded and protected

- world suggests – all spirituality to be embraced, investigated. It can be Jesus and...

- God very clear – not an option for His covenant children

d) Implications beyond Ourselves

- generational implications
- desire of God to show steadfast love

## So What

1. What does this 'MRI' reveal about my heart today?

- knowing God took action towards me
- knowing I have responded
- is my heart still putting God in the place he demands as my Father?
- does my time, talent, resources, choices reveal that to be true?
- confession, re-alignment today

2. Have there been Idols in my life?

- lies that I began to believe that directed my worship from where it belongs?

- places in my heart where I am pursuing other than what God has?

3. Am I aware this affects others, ready to ask God for grace driven effort to change?

4. Who will I ask to walk this journey with me?