

“NO GOD BUT JESUS”

Exodus 20: 1-3

Keeping the Command... The same God who revealed His power and grace to Israel by delivering them from the house of slavery in Egypt has shown His power and glory in an even greater way by delivering us from slavery to sin through the cross. Jesus is God in the flesh who rightly demands our absolute worship. We keep the first command by loving and trusting in Him.

Breaking the Command... Anytime we place anything or anyone in Christ’s rightful place of supremeness, we are breaking the first command. What we love, trust in, and seek to make us happy is our actual god. We see three categories of idols in I John 2:16: lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life.

What to do with Idols... Even as Christians we struggle to keep the first commandment; our hearts are constantly tempted to love and trust a God-substitute. To fight against idols we must *repent* of them and *replace* them with new thoughts and behaviors of love and trust in Jesus.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Why is the first commandment the greatest commandment?
2. What false gods have you worshiped? How are you fighting these idols?
3. What does it mean in practice to have no other gods before God?

(Scripture Reading/Meditation Assignment: Ex. 20: 4-6.)