



# The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty to God (Part 1):

**Commandment One** Concerns God's Being—Never Believe in False Gods, **Exodus 20:3** 

#### **DEEPER STUDY #1**

THE BIBLICAL CONSEQUENCES OF HAVING OTHER GODS, OF BELIEVING IN OTHER GODS

(Exodus 20:3) Commandments, The Ten— Obedience— Judgment: What are the consequences of breaking this commandment? This passage does not cover the consequences. The reason is seen in the first two verses (Exodus 20:1-2).

**Exodus 20:1-2 (NASB)** 

<sup>1</sup> Then God spoke all these words, saying,

#### 1. There are the consequences upon God.

- **a.** The person who does not follow God cuts the heart of God: causes pain and hurt for Him.
- **b.** The person who does not follow God causes the name of God to be blasphemed.
- **c.** The person who does not follow God lives a life that is detestable to God.
- 2. There are the consequences upon oneself, ones day to day life.
  - **a.** The person who does not follow God follows after dumb, lifeless idols, man-made gods that can never help him.

Jeremiah 16:20 (NASB)

- <sup>20</sup> Can man make gods for himself? Yet they are not gods! 1 Corinthians 12:2 (NASB)
- <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, *you were* led astray to the mute idols, however you were led.
- **b.** The person who does not follow God exchanges a life of glory for a life that does not profit, a life that is worthless.

Jeremiah 2:11 (NASB)

<sup>11</sup> Has a nation changed gods When they were not gods? But My people have changed their glory For that which <u>does not profit</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

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#### Lecture # 4 Part 2



**c.** The person who does not follow God experiences a life of emptiness and trouble, missing out on the spiritual rest and peace of God.

Hebrews 4:11 (NASB)

<sup>11</sup> Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through *following* the same example of disobedience.

**Psalms 78:32-33 (NASB)** 

- <sup>32</sup> In spite of all this they still sinned And <u>did not believe</u> in His wonderful works.
- $^{33}$ So He brought their days to an end in <u>futility</u> And their years in sudden <u>terror</u>.
- **d.** The person who does not follow God lives a life of hopelessness. **Ephesians 2:12 (NASB)**
- <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, <u>having no hope</u> and without God in the world.
- **e.** The person who does not follow God lives a life that is enslaved to sin. **Galatians 4:8-9 (NASB)**
- <sup>8</sup> However at that time, when you did not know God, you were slaves to those which by nature are no gods.
- <sup>9</sup> But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how is it that you turn back again to the weak and worthless elemental things, to which you desire to be enslaved all over again?
- **f.** The person who does not follow God lives a hypocritical life, a life that denies the truth.
- 2 Timothy 3:5 (NASB)
- <sup>5</sup> holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

**Romans 1:18-23 (NASB)** 

- <sup>18</sup> For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,
- <sup>19</sup> because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.
- <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.
- <sup>21</sup> For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- <sup>22</sup> Professing to be wise, they became fools.
- <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in

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#### Lecture # 4 Part 2



the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

**g.** The person who does not follow God defiles his mind and conscience. **Titus 1:15 (NASB)** 

<sup>15</sup> To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and <u>unbelieving</u>, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.

**h.** The person who does not follow God experiences the most illogical life that can be lived: the life of a fool.

#### **Psalms 14:1 (NASB)**

- <sup>1</sup> The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good.
- **i.** The person who does not follow God will have no root and will fall away when temptation comes.

#### **Luke 8:12-13 (NASB)**

- <sup>12</sup> Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved.
- <sup>13</sup> Those on the rocky *soil are* those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no *firm* root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away.
- **j.** The person who does not follow God places his faith only in signs and wonders.

#### **John 4:48 (NASB)**

- <sup>48</sup> So Jesus said to him, "Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you *simply* will not believe."
- **k.** The person who does not follow God is blinded in his mind, unable to see the saving light of the gospel of Christ.

#### 2 Corinthians 4:4 (NASB)

- <sup>4</sup> in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- **l.** The person who does not follow God lives a life of ungodly lusts, a life that mocks God and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Jude 1:18 (NASB)**

<sup>18</sup> that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts."

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#### Lecture # 4 Part 2



#### 2 Peter 3:3-5 (NASB)

<sup>3</sup> Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with *their* mocking, following after their own lusts,

<sup>4</sup> and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For *ever* since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

<sup>5</sup> For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God *the* heavens existed long ago and *the* earth was formed out of water and by water,

#### Acts 17:18 (NASB)

<sup>18</sup> And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.

#### **Psalms 73:11-12 (NASB)**

<sup>11</sup>They say, "How does God know? And is there knowledge with the Most High?"

<sup>12</sup> Behold, these are the wicked; And always at ease, they have increased *in* wealth.