# The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty to God (Part 5):

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

We make a god out of anything that we <u>esteem</u> or <u>love</u>, <u>fear</u> or <u>serve</u> more than God. Again, whatever the heart clings to, that is a person's god. It may be oneself. Frankly, many people focus upon pleasing and satisfying themselves. They live by their <u>own values</u> and are <u>concerned primarily</u> with their <u>own feelings</u>, <u>comfort</u>, <u>desires</u>, and <u>pleasures</u>. They simply live like <u>they want</u> and <u>do their own thing</u>. They have exalted themselves to be their own god.

### Other people make gods out of.....

| a. | heavenly bodies | <b>k.</b> images                       |
|----|-----------------|--|
| b. | science         | <b>l.</b> property                     |
| c. | force, energy   | <b>m.</b> position                     |
| d. | animals         | <b>n.</b> the latest style of clothing |
| e. | family          | o. cars, trucks                        |
| f. | sex             | <b>p.</b> sports                       |
| g. | food            | <b>q.</b> recreation                   |
| h. | pleasure        | r. career                              |
| i. | recognition     | s. power                               |
| i. | fame            |  |

A god can be anything or any person. Man's <u>first allegiance</u>, <u>first loyalty</u>, <u>first devotion</u> is to be to the **LORD God**. The **LORD God** is to be first in a man's life; He is to be enthroned in the heart of man. Man is to know and acknowledge that there is one God and one God alone. The <u>first commandment</u> of the **LORD** is to be obeyed:

## Exodus 20:3 (NASB)

#### Thought 1. Note several points.

1) The so called gods of heaven and earth are nothing more than the creation of man's imagination and hands.

## **Psalms 115:4-8 (NASB)**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods before Me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, The work of man's hands.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but they cannot speak; They have eyes, but they cannot see;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> They have ears, but they cannot hear; They have noses, but they cannot smell;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they cannot feel; They have feet, but they cannot walk; They cannot make a sound with their throat.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Those who make them will become like them, Everyone who trusts in them.

#### Isaiah 40:18-20 (NASB)

- <sup>18</sup> To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him?
- <sup>19</sup> As for the idol, a craftsman casts it, A goldsmith plates it with gold, And a silversmith fashions chains of silver.
- <sup>20</sup> He who is too impoverished for *such* an offering Selects a tree that does not rot; He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman To prepare an idol that will not totter.

**Isaiah 45:20 (NASB)** 

<sup>20</sup> Gather yourselves and come; Draw near together, you fugitives of the nations; They have no knowledge, Who carry about their wooden idol And pray to a god who cannot save.

**Jeremiah 10:2-5 (NASB)** 

- <sup>2</sup> Thus says the Lord, "Do not learn the way of the nations, And do not be terrified by the signs of the heavens Although the nations are terrified by them;
- <sup>3</sup> For the customs of the peoples are delusion; Because it is wood cut from the forest, The work of the hands of a craftsman with a cutting tool.
- <sup>4</sup> "They decorate *it* with silver and with gold; They fasten it with nails and with hammers So that it will not totter.
- <sup>5</sup> "Like a scarecrow in a cucumber field are they, And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot walk! Do not fear them, For they can do no harm, Nor can they do any good."

**Romans 1:22-23 (NASB)** 

- <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 the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.
- 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.
- 2) There is only one true and living God, the **LORD** Himself (**Jehovah**, **Yahweh**).

**Deuteronomy 4:35 (NASB)** 

<sup>35</sup> To you it was shown that you might know that the Lord, He is God; there is no other besides Him.

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NASB)** 

- <sup>4</sup>"Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!
- <sup>5</sup> "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- 2 Samuel 7:22 (NASB)
- For this reason You are great, O Lord GOD; for there is none like You, and there is no God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.