The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty to God (Part 7):

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

<u>Thought 2</u>. The very first commandment says, "You shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). Note the words "before me."

This suggests at <u>least two facts</u>:

- 1) If we set some so-called god "before God," He knows it. We cannot hide the fact from Him.
- 2) If we set a god "before Him," His anger is aroused.

Psalms 44:20-21 (NASB)

²⁰ If we had forgotten the name of our God Or extended our hands to a strange god,

²¹ Would not God find this out? For He knows the secrets of the heart.

Isaiah 42:8 (NASB)

⁸ I am the Lord, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.

Romans 1:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

4. (Exodus 20:3) Obedience; Commandments, The Ten: What is the decision required by this commandment?

Exodus 20:3 (NASB)

I have **two very specific points** to make under this question.

- 1. The decision can be stated positively:
 - **a.** We must acknowledge that there is only one living and true God and serve Him with our whole heart.

1 Chronicles 28:9 (NASB)

⁹ As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.

³You shall have no other gods before Me.

Deuteronomy 26:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ You have today declared the Lord to be your God, and that you would walk in His ways and keep His statutes, His commandments and His ordinances, and listen to His voice.

1 Corinthians 8:5-7 (NASB)

- ⁵ For even if there are so-called gods whether in heaven or on earth, as indeed there are many gods and many lords,
- ⁶ yet for us there is *but* one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we *exist* for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we *exist* through Him.
- ⁷ However not all men have this knowledge; but some, being accustomed to the idol until now, eat *food* as if it were sacrificed to an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.
- **b.** We must turn to the **LORD** and be saved, for He alone is God.

Isaiah 45:22 (NASB)

- ²² "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.
- **c.** We must love the **LORD** our God (**Jehovah**, *Yahweh*) with all our hearts.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NASB)

- ⁴"Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!
- ⁵ "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
- **d.** We must seek to walk before God and be blameless.

Genesis 17:1 (NASB)

¹ Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.

Jeremiah 7:23 (NASB)

²³ But this is what I commanded them, saying, 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command you, that it may be well with you.'