

Worship Theme – Rethinking Religion: Rethinking the Worth of Worship Sermon Theme – Worship the Lord your God March 2-4, 2024

Exodus 20:1-17 And God spoke all these words: ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³ "You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷ "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

- What was the setting for God giving Moses the Ten Commandments? What had Israel been told about who was able to approach Mt. Sinai?
- 2. What reason did God give as to why the people should obey him and his commandments? How does the same rationale hold true for us?

- 3. What is a "god"? What is an "idol"?
- 4. Why is it crucial to identify what our idols are, repent of their worship, and strive with the Spirit's power to keep God in top position in our hearts and lives?
- 5. What reasons does God give to you about why he is to be considered worthy of praise?
- 6. How does Jesus say we may best communicate our love to God? What does he say are the two greatest commandments upon which hangs the whole Old Testament?
- 7. All the commandments are impossible for us to keep. Even if we do what the thing actually says, the attitude of our hearts often breaks the intent of the command. Which do you find to be particularly challenging for you? Why?
- 8. How can you worship God all the time? What does this look like in your life?
- 9. What true comfort is there for us in spite of our many failures to love God and neighbor as we ought?
- 10. What does God say fulfills the law of Christ and is pure and faultless religion accepted by the Father?