



No Other Gods

First Commandment

EXO 20:3

# The Existence of God

- ▶ (20:3; Gen. 1:1) Of course this is **theologically** sound. There is only one God (Isa. 46:9).
- ▶ It is not difficult to **prove** the existence of the one and only God through ontological, cosmological, or teleological arguments.
- ▶ Moreover, to prove otherwise is **impossible** (i.e. there is no rare earth in Australia)



THERE IS ONLY  
*one God!*

# To Believe in the One and Only God



- ▶ The difficult part is not to accept that there is a God and only one creator. (Matt. 4:10) The hard part is to **live** as if there is only one creator.
- ▶ It is impossible to do that unless we **believe** in God—therefore **faith** is the center of the first commandment (the beginning of relationship)
- ▶ (Phil. 3:18-20) Many people would rather worship anything but God, or worship them alongside God

# 1. He Must be the ONLY God

- ▶ Many people are okay with **serving many gods** at the same time (ill: worship of Baal)
- ▶ This is what is unique about the Israelites among the world at that time—they have a God that **demands** to be worshiped **alone**
- ▶ The God demands a relationship (i.e. commitment) and the first place in our lives
- ▶ (Jos. 24:14; 1 King 18:22) We must **choose**



# Our Relationship With God



- ▶ In our relationship with God—growing deeper from **faith** to **love** (2 Peter 1:5-7), such relationship will grow deeper and more exclusive. “No other gods” is an exclusive statement out of love and commitment.
- ▶ (i.e. marriage) Just like it is **insane** to imagine sharing a spouse, it is just as insane (more so) for God to share our devotion to Him with others



## 2. There Must Be No OTHER Gods

- ▶ Why would they worship Baal or any other gods?
- ▶ It was **structured** and appeared guaranteed
- ▶ It was **easy** and convenient
- ▶ It was **self-centered** and with choices
- ▶ It was **pleasing** to the senses
- ▶ (1 Cor. 10:7) We are still tempted by these same things: entertaining, satisfying, and result-driven



# 3. Before God We Worship



- ▶ “Before me” as coming to God and facing Him
- ▶ We are called to **trust** and **worship** Christ as the only Saviour (1 Tim. 2:5; Rom. 12:1-2)
- ▶ This refers to our **desire**: Do you actually desire God today? (Psa. 73:25; Phil. 3:8)
- ▶ In the New Testament, the first commandment has become even more **personal** (Matt. 6:24; 33). It emphasizes on personal **choice**.

# Let's Think on This

- ▶ Is your God and Saviour the only one God that you worship today? These question may help you to think on this:
- ▶ Whom do you **praise** today?
- ▶ Whom do you **rely** on today?
- ▶ Whom do you **call** for help today?
- ▶ Whom do you **give thanks** to today?

