

Have no other gods before Me.

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Is this a statement of insecurity or petty jealousy?

Exodus 20 stands as a call to God's people to live responsibly...

(to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength; and to love your neighbor as yourself)

...and sits amidst the call to a life of maturity and sanctity (chapter 19).

Restrictive..... Yes

.....for everyone's good with a nod to the goodness of God and His blueprint for life.

Points us to Jesus..... Yes

.....because we have broken every one of these commandments and need a redemptive solution to the moral dilemma in our messy lives.

Psalm 119:93 & 142

v.93 I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.

v.142 Your testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I may live.



- ¹ And God spoke all these words, saying,
- 2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying,

Hebrew: elohim

Meaning: God, god

(A plural noun with a sense of singularity)

Uses: God- 2326 times mighty- 2 times

gods- 204 times goddess- 2 times

god- 45 times rulers, divine, divine

God's- 14 times being, exceedingly,

judges- 3 times godly- 1 time each

Ruler over _____;

Genesis 1 the *infinite* ruler over of creation.

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Francis Schaeffer, He is There and He is not Silent

...a Christianity which has balance, not only exegetically and intellectually, but also in the area of reality and beauty; an insistence that beginning with *the Christian system as God has given it to men in the verbalized propositional revelation of the Bible* one can move along and find that every area of life is touched by truth and a song.

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Hebrew: YHVH

(Yahweh)

...changed to Jehovah by monks in the middle ages.

The proper name of the God of Israel...

...who had introduced Himself to

Moses in Exodus 3.

Exodus 3:1-15

- 1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
- ² And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.
- ³ And Moses said,
 - "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned."
- ⁴ When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."
- ⁵ Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."
- ⁶ And he said,
 - "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

- ⁷Then the Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings,
- and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.
- ⁹ And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.
- ¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."
- ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"
- ¹² He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

¹³ Then Moses said to God,

"If I come to the people of Israel and say to them,

'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me,

'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said,

"Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you."

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel:

'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.'

This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

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Names of God that reveal who He Is

- Elohim: The Almighty Creator (Genesis 1:1....2.532 times)
- Yahweh: The Personal name of God (His dynamic presence with fullness of heart)
- El Roi: The God Who Sees Me (Genesis... Abram, Sarah and Hagar)
- El Shaddai: Lord God Almighty (Genesis to Abram at 99 years old)
- Yahweh Rophe: The Lord Heals (Exodus ... 1 time... second name God reveals)
- Yahweh Yireh: The Lord Provides (Genesis... Abraham on Mt. Moriah with Isaac)
- Yahweh Shammah: The Lord is There (Ezekiel...Jerusalem....1 time)
- Yahweh Nissi: The Lord my Banner or Refuge (Exodus... Moses defeats Amalek)
- Yahweh Raah: The Lord my Shepherd/Friend/Companion (Psalm 23)
- Ish: Husband (Hosea)
- Yahweh Shalom: The Lord is Peace (Gideon in Judges)

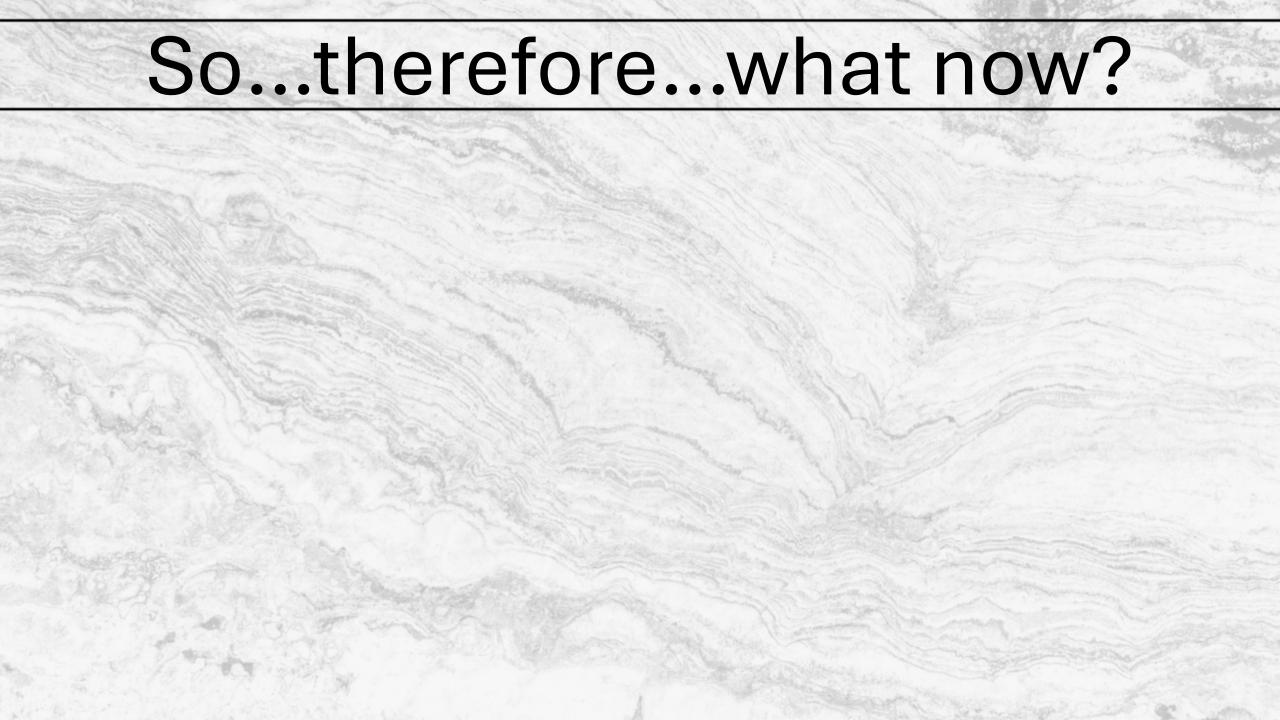
Exodus 20:3 Command #1



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³ "You shall have no other gods before me."

Think of the implications.



When we see God for who He is we both value Him enough to give Him His rightful place in our lives....

....and we see the great value of mankind because we are each made in His image and loved beyond measure.

If God is all these things, then is it not reasonable to trust Him above all else?

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If all the things we put above God are simply temporary, secondary, and inadequate, are we not fools to prioritize them before the One who loves us, etc?

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