

Deuteronomy 4; Lord's Day 35
WORSHIP OF THE ONE TRUE GOD

- I. The meaning.
 - A. God requires that He be worshiped, loved, and thanked as He has revealed Himself.
 - 1. God reveals Himself to all men in creation (Rom. 1:18,20).
 - 2. God further reveals Himself in His Word and in the preaching of His Word (I Cor. 1:21).
 - B. Images are contrasted to God's revelation of Himself.
 - 1. The lively preaching of His revelation (I Cor. 1:21) is God's way of instructing.
 - 2. We must knowledgeably use Scriptures revelation out of sincere love for God.
 - C. Thus, this commandment establishes the "regulative principle" of worship.
 - D. The seriousness of image worship is that it is hating God.
- II. There are good reasons why we must serve God only as He has commanded.
 - A. First, God is a Spirit (John 4:24), so images of Him are impossible.
 - B. Second, God is infinite, in His being and in His glory, in His majesty and in each of His virtues.
 - C. Third, we need not make images, because of the nature of God's covenant with us.
 - D. The fourth reason is this is how we show our love for God.
- III. There are inducements God gives for our obeying Him.
 - A. First, God pursues with anger and jealousy those who hate Him by not worshiping Him as He commands.
 - B. Second, God makes clear that the violation of this command bears fruit on our children.
 - C. Obedience is encouraged when God promises to show His mercy on those who serve Him as He commands.
 - D. Resulting admonitions.