

Ten Commandments (Part 9)
(The First Commandment – Part 1)

Exodus 20:3: “*You shall have no other gods before Me.*”

-Literally: “There shall not be to you other gods before My face.” (presence, not precedence; WSC Q#48)

WSC Question #48: Question: “What are we specially taught by these words [before me] in the first commandment?” Answer: “These words [before me] in the first commandment teach us that God, who sees all things, takes notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other God.”

What gives God the right to issue such a command?

-We are prone to idolatry (Ezekiel 20:7, 8; Romans 1:25)

-There are no other true Gods, (1 Corinthians 8:4; Galatians 4:8)

- False gods exercise real power over those who worship them (James 1:14, 15; 1 John 2:16).

-God has the right to command us because of who He is and what He has done.

- God is the Creator of all (Acts 17:24-28).

- God is the Sustainer of all (Acts 17:24-28; Hebrews 1:3).

- God is the Redeemer of some (Exodus 20:3).

-God has the right to command us because of who He is in Himself (Psalm 90:1; 97:2; 2 Timothy 6:16).

Practical Observations

1) We must choose God.

2) We're unable to choose God.