

CARVED IN STONE, PART 2  
**WORSHIP GOD ALONE**  
Exodus 21:3

*God's people are to worship God alone.*

**The LANGUAGE of the First Commandment**

Second person singular ("you" singular)

No other gods "before"/"against" my face

No other god except me

No rivals to God's authority

**The CONTEXT of the First Commandment**

Polytheism is simply how the ancient world worked.

Ezekiel 20:7-8

It's one thing to get Israel out of Egypt; it's another thing to get Egypt out of Israel.

**The VIOLATION of the First Commandment**

King Solomon

1 Kings 11:4-6

The time/effort we spend on ourselves vs. the time/effort we spend on the things of God

**The REVELATION of the First Commandment**

God wants (and deserves) to have primacy or preeminence in his people's lives.

God finds it revolting to have "competition" from substitutes.

Question: Is God not humble? Is he a narcissistic God?

God *is* utterly supreme in the universe!

Genuine transformation through genuine worship

God is the very definition of humility—to have infinite power to compel submission while allowing himself to be rejected.

**The APPLICATION of the First Commandment**

God allows the existence of alternatives in life, but he wants us to choose the best.

Nothing else should be king in our lives but God.

Tolerance is a biblical value, but syncretism is not.