

Undivided Allegiance

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, March 13, 2022; Exodus 20:1-3; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme – God desires a people who obey God’s Law. At the heart of His command to have NO other gods before Him is the need to worship God exclusively, to shun all forms of idolatry completely, and to trust in Christ uniquely!

I. Commandment Given – Read Exodus 20:1-3

- A. What is the context surrounding Exodus 20:1-3? What are the potential reasons why the Ten Commandments should have any sort of compelling authority over the people of Israel?
- B. Why do you think the Lord begins with the commandment that the people would have “no other gods” before Him? Why do you think this commandment is given before the others?
- C. How would you state the 1st Commandment negatively?
- D. How should Christians balance the rules that God requires and the relationship He provides in Christ? What do you think it looks like for a Christian to obediently delight in God?

II. Commandment Fulfilled – Read Matthew 5:17 and Luke 14:25-33

- A. Read Judges 2:11-19. What does this passage tell us about God’s view of false worship? What is the primary problem with the people of Israel in the book of Judges? Do you believe that we are prone to a similar problem? How is that problem manifested in our culture?
- B. John Calvin once wrote, “The human heart is a perpetual idol factory.” Do you agree with his statement? Why or why not? Can you provide examples from your own life?
- C. How is Jesus the fulfillment of the 1st Commandment in his life and in His teaching? How are passages like John 1:1-14 and Luke 14:25-33 helpful in answering that question?
- D. What do you think total devotion to God in Christ looks like?

III. Commandment Applied – Read Acts 4:12 and Matthew 6:24

- A. How do we know when we have competing allegiances in our hearts and lives?
- B. As you evaluate your own life, what idol threatens your allegiance to God the most? Is it the love of money, a perfect family, a specific relationship, health, comfort, or something else?
- C. How does forgetfulness of your costly deliverance from sin factor into the way you respond to competing allegiances? What steps can you take to put competing allegiances to death?