

I. Why we are to have no other gods than God

- A. "Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions" (Galatians 3:19)
- B. The two great commandments (Matthew 22:35-40)
- C. "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." (20:2; see also Shorter Catechism Q&A 44; Luke 1:74-75; 1 Peter 1:14-19)
- D. Because God is one, and sovereign, and self-existent, we ought to have no other gods
- E. Because God is *our* God, we ought to have no other gods (see Ephesians 2-3)
- F. Because God has redeemed us, we ought to have no other gods

II. What it means to have no other gods

- A. "You shall have no other gods before me." (20:2; see 20:20; 34:6)
- B. Having other gods is seldom conscious or intentional (in this culture)
 - i. ancestors, other deities, prayers to saints are a giveaway
 - ii. whenever something takes on ultimate importance in your life, it is your god
 - iii. Having other gods is the root of every sin
 - iv. Having other gods is a description of the first sin (Genesis 3)
- C. Doing bad things and feeling bad: evidence of other gods
 - i. The god of approval, respect, or love of others
 - ii. The god of physical comfort or pleasure
 - iii. The god of power or success
 - iv. "Root and fruit"
- D. Having no other gods = there is nothing and no one of ultimate importance to you except God

III. How to have no gods but God

- A. Identify your other gods
- B. Kill your other gods (see Exodus 32; Leviticus 9:2)
- C. Fall in love with God