

**NO OTHER GODS**



# Exodus 20:1-3 (ESV)

*And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me.*

# No other gods

*(Deu 5:7 ESV) "You shall have no other gods before me.*



# What happened to Demas?

- ▶ Phm 1:23-24 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.
- ▶ 2Ti 4:10a For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.

# Error # 1

Serving more than one God.



# Solomon's Error

*(1 Ki 11:4-6 ESV) For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. So Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and did not wholly follow the LORD, as David his father had done.*

# Serve only one God

*(Mat 6:24a ESV) "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other."*

# What does this look like?

- ▶ God + Job
- ▶ God + Boyfriend/Girlfriend/loved one
- ▶ God + Home
- ▶ God + Health



# What could cause you to lose your faith?

- ▶ Loss of a job?
- ▶ Loss of a loved one?
- ▶ Loss of your home?
- ▶ Loss of your health?

# God alone

*(Luke 14:26-27 ESV) "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."*

## Error # 2

Making ourselves god.



# Deceived by Satan

*(Gen 3:1-3 ESV) Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'"*

# Deceived by Satan

*(Gen 3:4-6 ESV) But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

# Did God really say...?

- ▶ **Honor your father and your mother?** But they don't deserve it
- ▶ **You shall not murder?** But I hate that guy
- ▶ **You shall not commit adultery?** But I want a new wife
- ▶ **You shall not steal?** But I want that thing
- ▶ **You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor?** But they are jerks
- ▶ **You shall not covet?** But there is no harm in looking.

# What does this look like?

- ▶ What in our life supersedes God's commands? Then we are serving two gods and one of them is our self.



## Error # 3

Serving a god who serves us.





## Luke 4:1-3 (ESV)

*And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread."*

## Luke 4:4-7 (ESV)

*And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'"*

*And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."*

# Serve God alone

*Luke 4:8 (ESV) And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'"*

# What does this look like?

- ▶ How much of our prayers are “give us this day” rather than “thy Kingdom come”? If we are praying according to our wants and don’t get it, do we chuck the whole Christianity thing?

# Error # 4

Serving a lesser god.



# Gideon

*(Judg 6:11-12 ESV) Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor."*

# Gideon

*(Judg 6:13-14 ESV) "And Gideon said to him, "Please, sir, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?"*

# Gideon

*(Judges 6:15-16 ESV) And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man."*



# 135,000 Enemy Troops (Judges 8:10)

- ▶ 32,000 Israelites show up to fight
- ▶ 22,000 Israelites leave because of fear
- ▶ 10,000 Israelites not afraid to fight
- ▶ 300 Israelites + God

# Believing in a lesser god...

- ▶ When we make God in our own image, We are believing in a lesser God
- ▶ When we say "God will not judge anyone" We are believing in a lesser God
- ▶ When we say "God can't save me" We are believing in a lesser God
- ▶ When we say "God can't use me" We are believing in a lesser God

# Love Resolution

*(Deu 6:5 ESV) You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.*



# CONCLUSION

