

NO OTHER GODS

Exodus 20:1-3,5 NLT

Then God gave the people all these instructions: “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. “You must not have any other god but me.... You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods.”

Exodus 24:3,7 NLT

Then Moses went down to the people and repeated all the instructions and regulations the Lord had given him. All the people answered with one voice, “We will do everything the Lord has commanded.”... Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to the people. Again they all responded, “We will do everything the Lord has commanded. We will obey.”

An idol is anything that takes the place of God in our hearts. It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give.

QUOTE: When we bow to an idol, we not only bow down but we step off the throne that God has created for us in heavenly places and we undermine our own authority.

Exodus 32:1-6 NLT

When the people saw how long it was taking Moses to come back down the mountain, they gathered around Aaron. “Come on,” they said, “make us some gods who can lead us. We don’t know what happened to this fellow Moses, who brought us here from the land of Egypt.” So Aaron said, “Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives and sons and daughters, and bring them to me.” All the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. Then Aaron took the gold, melted it down, and molded it into the shape of a calf. When the people saw it, they exclaimed, “O Israel, these are the gods who brought you out of the land of Egypt!” Aaron saw how excited the people were, so he built an altar in front of the calf. Then he announced, “Tomorrow will be a festival to the Lord!” The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry.

Three Idols:

Convenience

Comfort

Control

Romans 12:1 NLT

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

QUOTE: A living sacrifice means you must deliberately and continually offer yourself to Him. You must put to death the idea that you have a right to live as you choose.

Acts 17:28-29 NLT

For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' And since this is true, we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone.

The unfortunate reality in the Church today is that some of us accept Him as savior, redeemer, healer, and our source of peace and joy... but we won't live as though He is our Lord and Master.