

God's Top 10, pt 2

Exodus 20:1-7

A parental analogy

When God Speaks (foundation and review)

YHWH versus other gods

Predicated on relationship (1-2)

A Law of love and relationship

Paradigmatic vs exhaustive law codes

Primacy of God's character vs capricious rules

#1 Supremacy – *no other gods before me* (v 3)

#2 Nature of God as spirit & exclusivity (He's jealous for His rightful place) (4-6)

Commonly called prohibition of idolatry

forbids the worship of any representation of any god,
including the true God

Implies much more:

Makes the spiritual material (cf Jn 4)

Attacks God' nature as spirit and life-giver

Not just making, but worshipping and serving

Undermines God's omnipresence

Reveals man's drive to worship something

Our propensity to make idols

Linked to jealousy and loyal love

#3 Reverence and authority (7)

Far more than prohibition of "cussing"

The name of God represents His character – all He is

More than not saying or writing His name (Judaism)

Taking God lightly; abusing His authority

Take it Home