

Review: We are in our series on the 10 commandments. The 10 commandments were given to the Israelites to structure their life around God.

The 10 commandments are structured in a way as to remind us that God comes first.

The First 4 – No other God – No God in Your own image – Do Not take God's name in Vain – Remember the Sabbath.

Last week we talked about the first two:

### **1. You shall have no other God besides me.**

In the modern world we may not have idols or such but there are other things that we can put or have as our God:

- Money - Power - Comfort
- Relationships - Self – Politics - Success - Family

### **2. Do not make God in your own image.**

This commandment is not just about statues.

Today, people remake God in their own image.

They create a god who:

- Never judges
- Always affirms
- Fits their politics and personal preferences
- Approves their lifestyle and intentions

### **3. “You Shall Not Take the Name of the LORD Your God in Vain” (Exodus 20:7)**

God’s name represents His character, authority, and presence.

We take His name in vain when we:

- Use God’s name casually or as a curse word
- Claim God’s authority falsely (“God told me...” when He didn’t)
- Live hypocritically while claiming His name

We bear His name as believers **Christians and our lives reflect on Him.**

Rom 2:21-24 You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? (22) You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? (23) You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? (24) For "THE NAME OF GOD IS BLASPHEMED AMONG THE GENTILES BECAUSE OF YOU," as it is written.

**Our lives must honor the name we carry.**

### **4. “Remember the Sabbath Day, to Keep It Holy” (Exodus 20:8–11)**

The Sabbath is about **time set apart for God.**

God did not rest because He was tired, but to teach humanity that we must stop, recognize, and declare His Lordship.

Today, our ultimate rest is in Christ, and we honor this rest on the Lord's Day. Sunday worship is a declaration that **Jesus is Lord**.

### **Hebrews 10:24–25**

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together... but exhorting one another...”

Gathering is not optional; it is a testimony that Christ is our King.

This commandment is also about giving to God what is due to Him.

Isa 5:1-7 Now let me sing to my Well-beloved A song of my Beloved regarding His vineyard: My Well-beloved has a vineyard On a very fruitful hill. (2) He dug it up and cleared out its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. He built a tower in its midst, And also made a winepress in it; So He expected it to bring forth good grapes, But it brought forth wild grapes. ....Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes, Did it bring forth wild grapes? (5) And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. (6) I will lay it waste; It shall not be pruned or dug, But there shall come up briars and

thorns. I will also command the clouds That they rain no rain on it."

Matthew 22:21 They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

### **In conclusion,**

The first four commandments teach us this:

### **God must be first in:**

- 1) Our worship,**
- 2) Our hearts,**
- 3) Our words, and**
- 4) Our time.**