

TRUMPET CALL

WELCOME TO THE UPTOWN CHURCH!

EXODUS 20:18-21

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of Him may be before you, that you may not sin.” The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check your bulletin for more information.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A pastoral prayer of adoration, thanksgiving, and illumination.

Psalm 67:1-2, 105:4

PASSING THE PEACE

Unity & Reconciliation

*Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:11-12;
1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14; Matthew 5:23-24, 18:15*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Corporate prayer of our covenantal commitment with our Heavenly Father through the Son of God, which encourages the confession of sin together.

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Our Father,
who is in heaven,
holy is Your Name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against
us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.



For Yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
forever and ever.

Amen.



READING OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

The Holy Trinity and the Edenic Law

Acts 2:1-21

GENESIS 1:1-2,26-27

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.... Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...”

So God created man in His own image,
in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them.



GENESIS 2:7-9

Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



GENESIS 2:15-17

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”



GENESIS 3:1-3

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.’”



GENESIS 3:4-6

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.



GENESIS 3:7-8

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.



PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Praising and glorifying our Lord and Saviour in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

RESPONSIVE READING OF THE LAW

Ten Commandments and the Gospel

Exodus 20

PASTOR

You shall have no other gods before me.

PEOPLE

You shall worship the Lord your God
and Him only shall you serve.



PASTOR

You shall not make for yourself an idol.

PEOPLE

God is spirit, and those who worship
Him must worship in spirit and truth.



PASTOR

You shall not take the Lord's name in vain.

PEOPLE

Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is His footstool....



PASTOR

You shall not take the Lord's name in vain.

PEOPLE

Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes', and your 'No,' 'No'. Anything beyond this comes from the evil one.



PASTOR

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it
holy.

PEOPLE

The Sabbath was made for man, not
man for the Sabbath. Therefore, the
Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.



PASTOR

Honour your father and mother.

PEOPLE

Whoever loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of me....



PASTOR

Honour your father and mother.

PEOPLE

And he who does not take up his cross
and follow after Me is not worthy of
Me....



PASTOR

Honour your father and mother.

PEOPLE

He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.



PASTOR

You shall not murder.

PEOPLE

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.



PASTOR

You shall not commit adultery.

PEOPLE

Anyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.



PASTOR

You shall not steal.

PEOPLE

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.



PASTOR

You shall not bear false witness.

PEOPLE

For out of the abundance of the heart
the mouth speaks....



PASTOR

You shall not bear false witness.

PEOPLE

For by your words you will be justified,
and by your words you will be
condemned.



PASTOR

You shall not covet.

PEOPLE

Watch out! Be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.



PASTOR

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not a jot, not a tittle, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.



EVERYONE

Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit,
God Almighty, Three in One!



PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer

1 Samuel 16:14-23

1 SAMUEL 16:14-23

But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the Lord troubled him. And Saul's servants said to him, "Surely, a distressing spirit from God is troubling you. Let our master now command your servants, who are before you, to seek out a man who is a skillful player on the harp. And it shall be that he will play it with his hand when the distressing spirit from God is upon you, and you shall be well."



1 SAMUEL 16:14-23

So Saul said to his servants, “Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring him to me.”

Then one of the servants answered and said, “Look, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the Lord is with him.”



1 SAMUEL 16:14-23

Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, “Send me your son David, who is with the sheep.” And Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent them by his son David to Saul. So David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly, and he became his armorbearer.



1 SAMUEL 16:14-23

Then Saul sent to Jesse, saying, “Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight.” And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.



BLESSING & DISMISSAL OF THE CHILDREN

Call children to the altar for prayer and blessing.

Matthew 18:1-14, 19:13-14

MATTHEW 18:1-4

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” And calling to him a child, He put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”



PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Praising and glorifying our Lord and Saviour in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

DECLARATION OF THE LAW

The Greatest Commandment with a supplementary passage.

*Mark 12.29-31; Matthew 22:35-40; Luke 10:25-28;
John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7-8,21; Romans 13:9-10; Galatians 5:14; Matthew 7:12
Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Leviticus 19:18*

‘Hear, O Israel!

The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

And you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your
strength.’



This is the first and great commandment.
And the second is like it:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
On these two commandments hang all
the Law and the Prophets.



For the commandments,
“You shall not commit adultery,
You shall not murder,
You shall not steal,
You shall not covet,”



and any other commandment,
are summed up in this word:

“You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.”

Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 13:9-10



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME

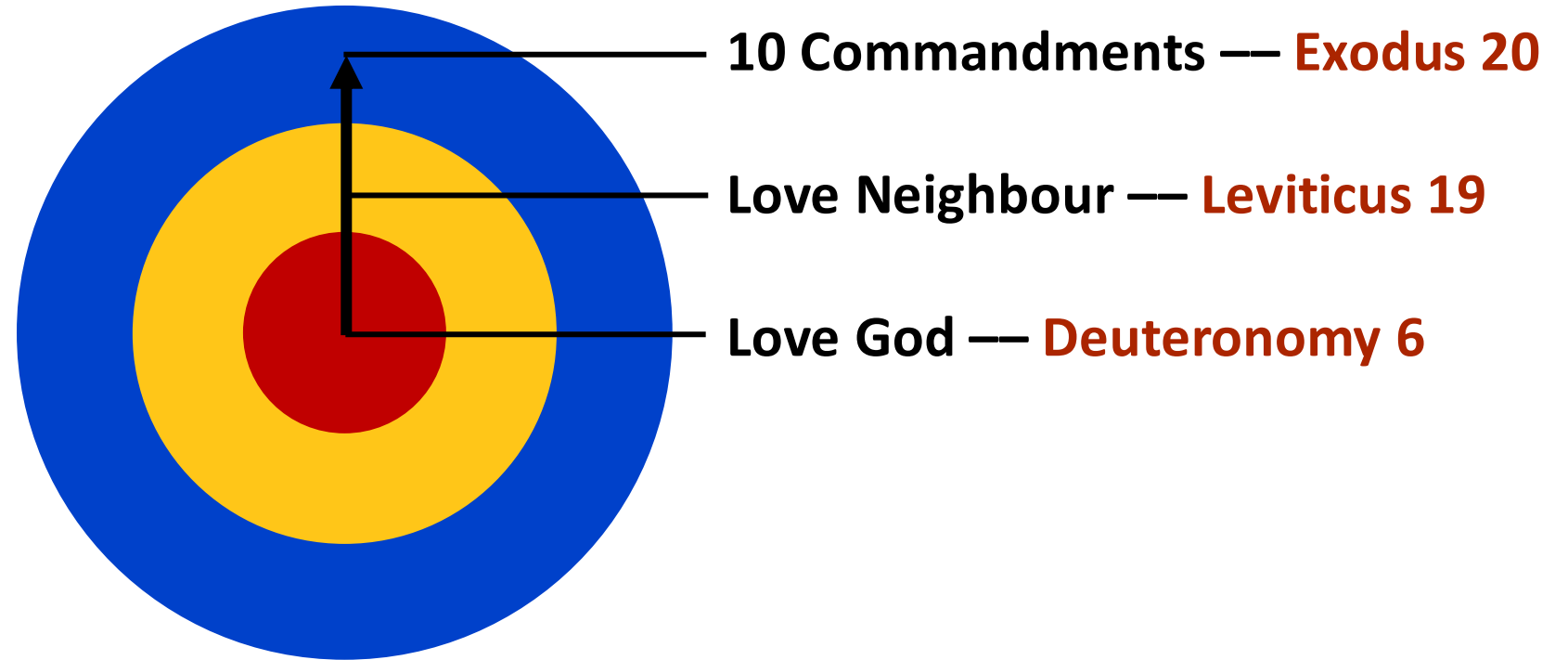
Understanding the Decalogue, Part I

EXODUS 20 – 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. **No other gods:** Worship only the one true God.
2. **No idols:** Do not make or worship images/idols.
3. **No misusing God's name:** Do not carry God's name falsely.
4. **Keep the Sabbath (No working):** Set aside a day to worship and rest in God.
5. **Honor parents:** Respect your father and mother.
6. **No murder:** Do not kill people unjustly.
7. **No adultery:** Be faithful to your spouse.
8. **No stealing:** Do not take what belongs to others.
9. **No lying:** Do not give false testimony (lie).
10. **No coveting:** Do not desire, envy, or crave what belongs to your neighbor.



EXODUS 20 – 10 COMMANDMENTS



EXODUS 20:1-3

1. No other gods

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.



EXODUS 20:4-6

2. No idols or images of gods

“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME

Worship God alone — exclusively.

- This first command is another way to express or recapitulate the Greatest Commandment to love God first and foremost.
- But—who are the other gods?
- It refers to actual gods: demons.



DEUTERONOMY 32:17-22

They sacrificed to demons that were not God,
to gods they had never known,
to new gods that had come recently,
whom your fathers had never dreaded.

You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you,
and you forgot the God who gave you birth.

“The Lord saw it and spurned them,



DEUTERONOMY 32:17-22

because of the provocation of his sons and his daughters.
And he said, 'I will hide my face from them;
I will see what their end will be,
for they are a perverse generation,
children in whom is no faithfulness.
They have made me jealous with what is no god;
they have provoked me to anger with their idols.



DEUTERONOMY 32:17-22

So I will make them jealous with those who are no people;
I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation.
For a fire is kindled by my anger,
and it burns to the depths of Sheol,
devours the earth and its increase,
and sets on fire the foundations of the mountains.



1 CORINTHIANS 10:14-21

Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?



1 CORINTHIANS 10:14-21

What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons.

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons.

You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.



THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONIC FORCES

- **John 12:31** — Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out..
- **John 14:30** — I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming.
- **1 John 5:19** — We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.



THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONIC FORCES

- **2 Corinthians 4:4** — In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- **Matthew 4:8-9** — Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”



THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONIC FORCES

- How, or whom rather, does Satan worship?
- Himself!!
- You worship Satan by worshipping IN THE SAME WAY Satan worships.... You follow in his footsteps, his pattern of worship.
- **Self-worship:** pride, arrogance, vanity, vainglory, egotism, selfishness, self-centred—idolatry—serving yourself as a god...
i.e., believing in “your truth” makes yourself a god.

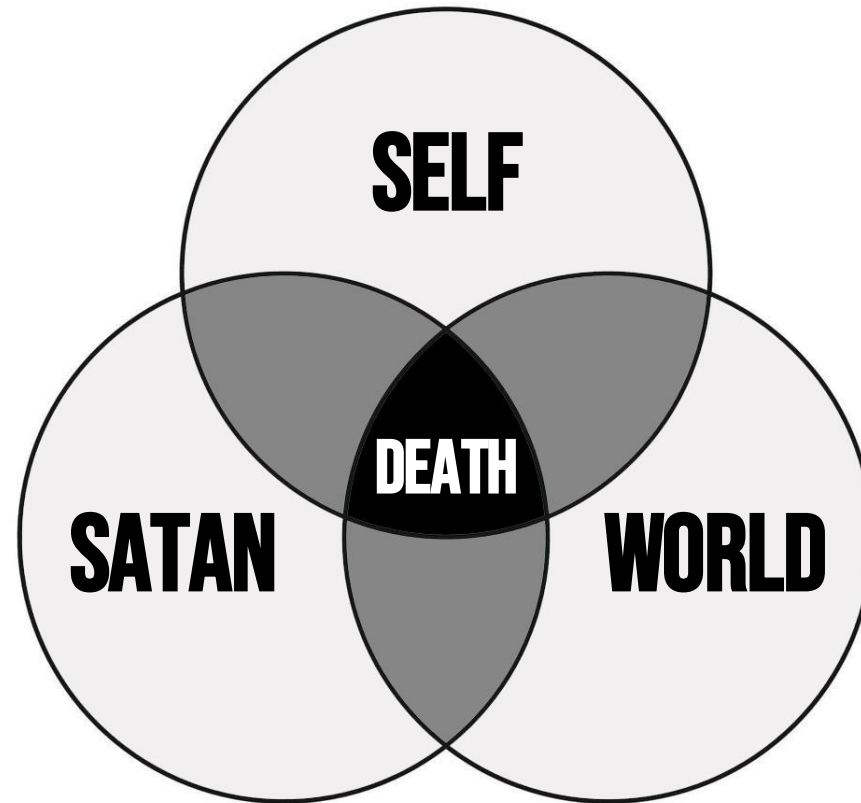


THE DEVIL AND HIS DEMONIC FORCES

- **Ephesians 2:1-4** — And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.
- False objects of worship: Satan, self, and everything between.



FALSE OBJECTS OF WORSHIP

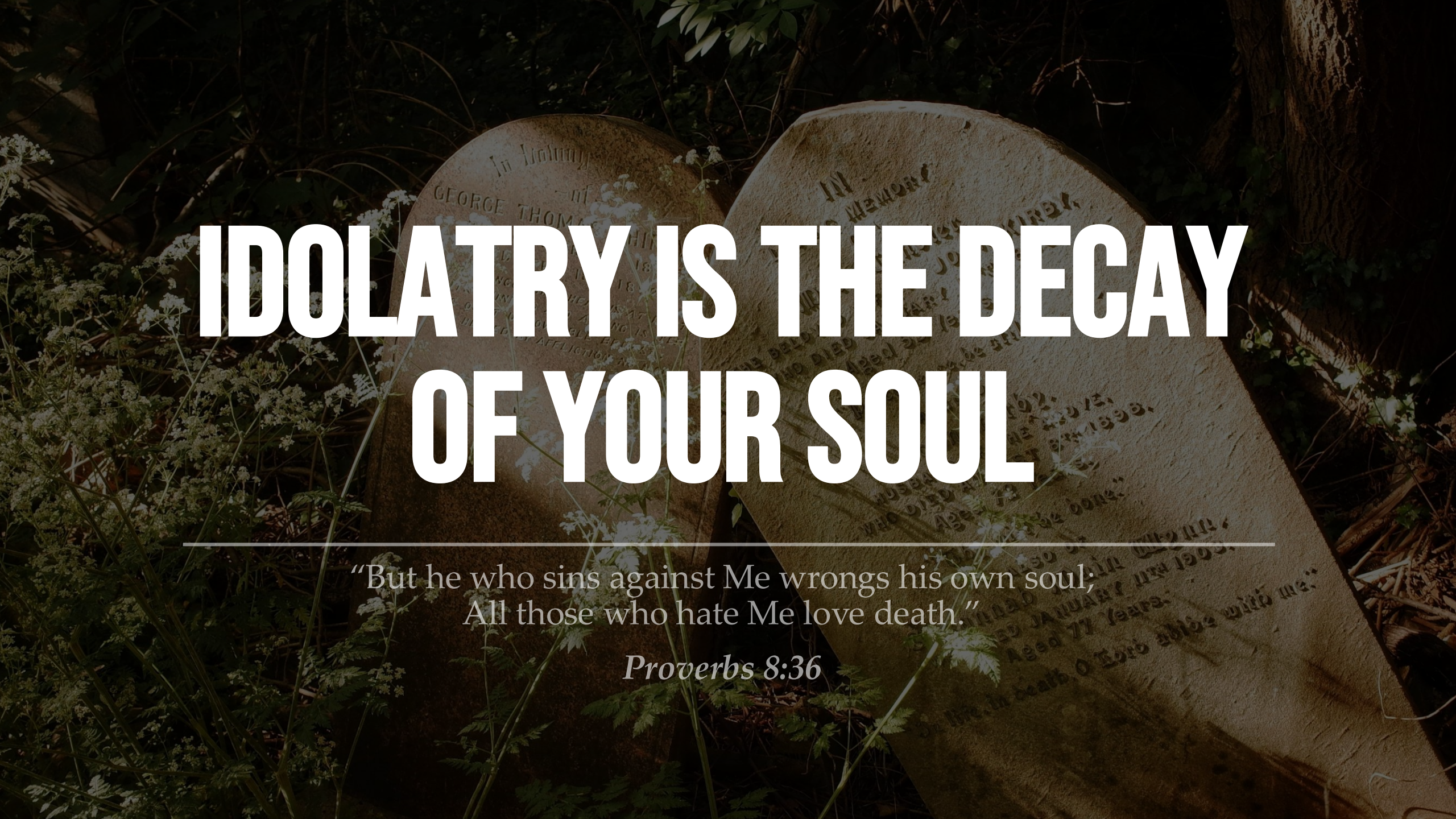




PRIDE IS A DISEASE

“But he who sins against Me wrongs his own soul;
All those who hate Me love death.”

Proverbs 8:36

The background of the image shows several weathered, upright gravestones in a cemetery. The stones are made of light-colored material, possibly marble or granite, and are partially covered with ivy and other climbing plants. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, white font. A thin white horizontal line is positioned below the main title.

IDOLATRY IS THE DECAY OF YOUR SOUL

“But he who sins against Me wrongs his own soul;
All those who hate Me love death.”

Proverbs 8:36

NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!!

- False objects of worship:
Satan, self, and everything between—the world.
- Demons are real... if you want to see their influence in society, look at the unnatural ethics and “doctrines of demons” being espoused in our world today...
- **Colossians 3:5** — Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!!

- **1 Timothy 4:1-2** — Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared [speaking lies in hypocrisy]
- Consider the Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes... they were a prideful “brood of vipers!” (**Matthew 12:34, 23:33**) They were idolatrous yet claimed to worship the one true God.
- **Matthew 15:9** — in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!!

- **1 Samuel 15:23-24** — “For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption [arrogance, stubbornness] is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king.”

Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.”



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!!

- Worship is aiming and moving toward an object
- Worship is directional, and has a trajectory
- So—**Why do you come to church?**
To be entertained? Feel good? Feel like you're in a community?
Is church emotionally satisfying or is it spiritually fulfilling?
- What is the end or goal of your attitude, feelings, desires, wishes, reasoning, affection, et cetera... you or God?



NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME!!!

Who was before Israel, leading them out of Egypt?

- **Jude 1:5** — Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.
- **1 Corinthians 10:9-10** — We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.



The background of the image shows several weathered, light-colored gravestones in a cemetery. The stones are partially obscured by dark, dense foliage and vines. The overall lighting is dim, creating a somber and contemplative atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background.

NO ONE BUT CHRIST BEFORE YOU!

“Submit yourselves therefore to God.
Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

James 4:7

NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME

Why do demons and humans alike desire worship?

- All creatures are designed to worship by nature. We must worship and serve someone or something.
- **Romans 1:23-25** — ...[they] exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.... they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator...
- **We worship whom must be worshipped — it's not optional!!!**



1 KINGS 9:6-8

But if you turn aside from following Me, you or your children, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes that I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel from the land that I have given them, and the house that I have consecrated for My name I will cast out of my sight, and Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples. And this house will become a heap of ruins.



CONQUERING PRIDE & IDOLATRY

- King Josiah returns Israel to worshipping God, but dies young...
- Now his influence would change the course of life of Israel while they were in Exile, in dark demonic lands that worship false gods, his steadfast faith in God paved the path and led the way for other bold men to rise up, stand strong, and hold fast.
- Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Daniel...



CONQUERING PRIDE & IDOLATRY

- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship a false god and stood up against the demonic empire of their day...
- **Daniel 3:12** — “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men, O king, pay no attention to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”



The background of the image shows several weathered, light-colored gravestones in a cemetery. The stones are partially obscured by dark, dense foliage and vines. The overall lighting is dim, creating a somber and contemplative atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background.

YOUR FAITH CANNOT BE CONQUERED.

“And they have conquered him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”

Revelation 12:11

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

Pastoral Prayer of Application of God's Word.

CALL THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH

Prayer in the aisles — confession of sin, anointing of the sick, and pastoral intercession alongside communal prayer, praise, and worship.

James 5:13-16; Psalm 103:2-5

PSALM 103:1-5

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless His holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits,



PSALM 103:1-5

who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.



JAMES 5:13-16

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.

Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise.

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up.



JAMES 5:13-16

And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.
Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.
The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



THE SENDING SONG

The final song of service before the Lord sends us out.

Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20; Psalm 103:1-5, 150:1-6

BENEDICTION

Priestly Blessing

BENEDICTION

May the glory and love of God the Father,
And the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the power and communion of the Holy Spirit,
Conform you into the image of His Son this week
Go in the joy that surpasses all understanding.
Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14, Philippians 4:7



FELLOWSHIP

Please check your bulletin for services this week.

