

## “THE ONE AND ONLY”

### The Sinai Code, Part 2

June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010

God's laws & rules are not a condition for a relationship; they're a confirmation of a relationship; they are not a condition of His love; they're a confirmation of His love

Relationship precedes rules with God

The way you have a relationship with God is not by keeping rules, it's by one simple act of trust

### Commandments 1 & 2 – The Most Significant Decision Other Than Becoming A Christian

Exodus 20:3 (NIV) “You shall have no other gods before Me.”

God is saying, “I want to be your one and only God” – because He is the one & only

God says, “I want to be the one source, the one God you depend on for everything”

What's more important to God than obedience is Recognition - for who God is

Exodus 20:4 (NIV) “You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.”

God says, don't attempt to erect any kind of shrine, statue, or form anything with your hands that Represents Me; God is unrepresentable

God is saying, “Don't try to make Me manageable, don't try to make me a location, don't try to compartmentalize Me”

We try to compartmentalize God & shrink God down to something we can manage

If you take God out of the center of your life, everything else is just Rule Keeping, and you can always find a loophole or excuse to break a rule

Exodus 20:5 (NIV) “You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God,...”

God says, “I don't like for anything to compete with My place in your life.”

God is not insecure nor wants attention for attention's sake; God knows our lives work better when He's in the center of our lives

Exodus 20:5 (NIV) “...punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me,...”

We know about multi-generational consequences; that may not be fair, but it's true

You try to organize your life around any other “little g” (little god) other than God, and there will be consequences which will trickle down to multiple generations

Exodus 20:6 (NIV) “...but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me & keep My commandments.”

This is huge! It’s the most important decision you’ll make other than your salvation – what is going to be supreme & central in your life; what’s going to function as the God in your life?

Life simply doesn’t work very well when you have some other god before God

We are hesitant to make God central in our lives because we’ve gotten the idea that God’s goal for us is to make us “good”

When you feel like someone’s trying to make you good, we assume they’re trying to Keep you from something good

The law is not God’s attempt to make bad people good, the law is God’s agenda to keep free people free

To resist His will & His law is to back yourself into some sort of bondage

### **The Two Most Important Decisions After Becoming A Christian**

1. I’ll have no other god before God, i.e. I will let God be God in my life
2. I won’t try to shrink God down to something I can manage, i.e. I’ll make God the center of my life

For those who made these decisions, they will tell you it scared them to death, and you won’t believe the peace that followed that kind of surrender

If you want to know the little god in your life, look at how you spend your time & money

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) “But seek first His kingdom & His righteousness, & all these things will be given to you as well.”

God isn’t trying to make you good; He’s trying to keep you free because He loves you

### **My Next Step Today Is:**

- I will have no other gods before the God, i.e. I’ll let God be God in my life
- I won’t try to shrink God down into something I can manage or try to compartmentalize Him
- I will memorize Exodus 20:4 (the second commandment)
- I want to play in the New Hope summer volleyball league beginning Sun, July 11<sup>th</sup>
- I plan to attend the “Minute to Win It” Fellowship Night Sat, July 17<sup>th</sup>