

The First Commandment

No Other Gods

Creation - Fall - Flood - Babel - Abraham - Isaac - Jacob (Israel) - Joseph - Children of Israel, Hebrews, Jews – God’s Covenant People.

As Genesis ends, the children of Israel find themselves enslaved.

Exodus, tells the story of the Hebrews “exit” from Egyptian bondage. This is the “birth” of the nation of Israel - to whom God revealed Himself and His will for mankind.

The Egyptians were polytheistic (they worshipped MANY gods), - and 400 years is a long time! (Generations... culture... thinking...)

The Hebrews, God’s people, were to be monotheistic – worship only ONE GOD – Jehovah. The Ten Commandments were given to sanctify (set apart) the people of God, they were to be different!

Exodus 20: 1 – 3 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 bondage. **You shall have no other gods before Me.**” This is repeated (word for word) 40 years later to a new generation who was born during the wilderness wanderings, in Deuteronomy 5: 6,7.

Timeline of events

*Ex. 19:8 Before the Lord gives the Ten Commandments the people agree...

*Ex.20: 1 – 17 the Ten Commandments are given orally to Moses by God

*Ex. 24: 3 Moses “tells” the people what God had said, and the people agree...

*Ex. 24:4 Moses “wrote” all the words of the Lord and (v.7) read it in the hearing of the people, and again, “And they said, All that the Lord has said we will do , and be obedient.”

*Ex.24: 12 Then the Lord said to Moses, Come up to Me on the mountain and be there: and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them... And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.”

*Ex. 32:1 Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, Come. Make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him. [and the people made a golden calf to worship] v. 19 In anger Moses brakes the tablets of stone., v. 35 So the Lord plagued the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made.

*Ex. 34 Moses is told to make new tablets for God to write the Ten Commandments on.