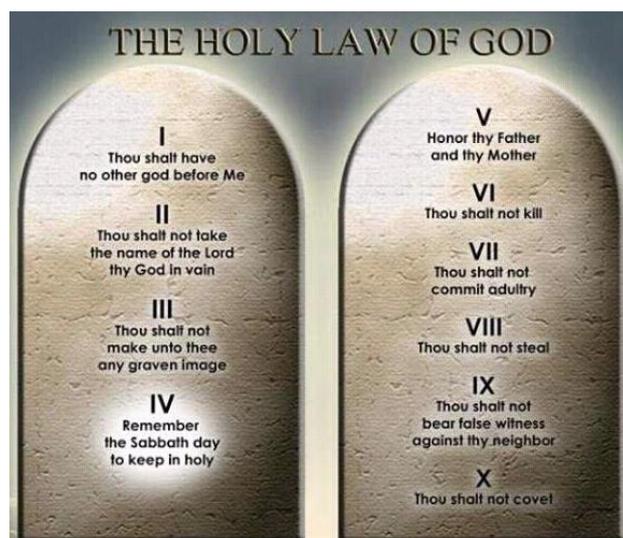


“3AM” MINISTRIES



THE FIRST COMMANDMENT OF GOD



“3AM” MINISTRIES - UGANDA
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Preface

This book is a compilation of our Wednesday Bible Studies. It basically handles the very first commandment of God. You can also get a copy of the Second to the tenth commandment.

I would like to pose you this question. “Have you ever bothered to study the moral Law given us from God from the first to the last?” The psalmist says “I *am* thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts. I have seen an end of all perfection: **but thy commandment is exceeding broad.** O how love I thy law! It *is* my meditation all the day.
Psalm 119:94-97

Have you ever sought God’s precepts? Have you ever wondered how broad God’s law is? What do you meditate upon all the day long?

If there was a time to understand deeply what the Ten Commandments are, it now. The law of God must be understood and then be taught to others. It is exceeding broad. Christ came not to change this moral law, but to magnify it. Says the bible, “The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; **he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.**
Isaiah 42:21.

....Christ pledged himself to keep the law which Adam transgressed, and to magnify that law and make it honorable by demonstrating that it was not arbitrary, and could be kept inviolate by man. Christ showed by His life that the law of God is faultless, and that man, by disobeying it, brings upon himself the evils which its restrictions seek to avert from him. {3SP 257.1

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

What does the Law tell us about God?

The Ten Commandments tell us about the character of God who by Himself wrote them by His finger on the two tables of stone. They testify of the very nature of God- a God of Love.

It was the love of God to man that prompted Him to express His will in the ten precepts of the Decalogue. . . . God has given man a complete rule of life in His law.

Obedied, he shall live by it, through the merits of Christ. Transgressed, it has power to condemn. The law sends men to Christ, and Christ points them back to the law. {OHC 138.6}

The law of God given from Sinai is a copy of the mind and will of the Infinite God. It is sacredly revered by the holy angels. Obedience to its requirements will perfect Christian character, and restore man, through Christ, to his condition before the fall. {RH, September 27, 1881 par. 17} God has given man a complete rule of life in his law.

Character	God	Law /commandment
Good	Psalm 34:8 ,Mat 19:17	Romans 7:12
Spiritual	John 4:24	Romans 7:14
Perfect	Mat 5:48, 2sam 22:31	Psalm 19:7
Holy	Lev11:45, Psalm 99:5	Romans 7:12
Just	Act 7:52	Romans 7:12
Truth	John 14:6	Ps 119:142
Righteousness	Jeremiah 23:6	Ps 119:172
Love	1 John 4:16	Romans 13:9-10

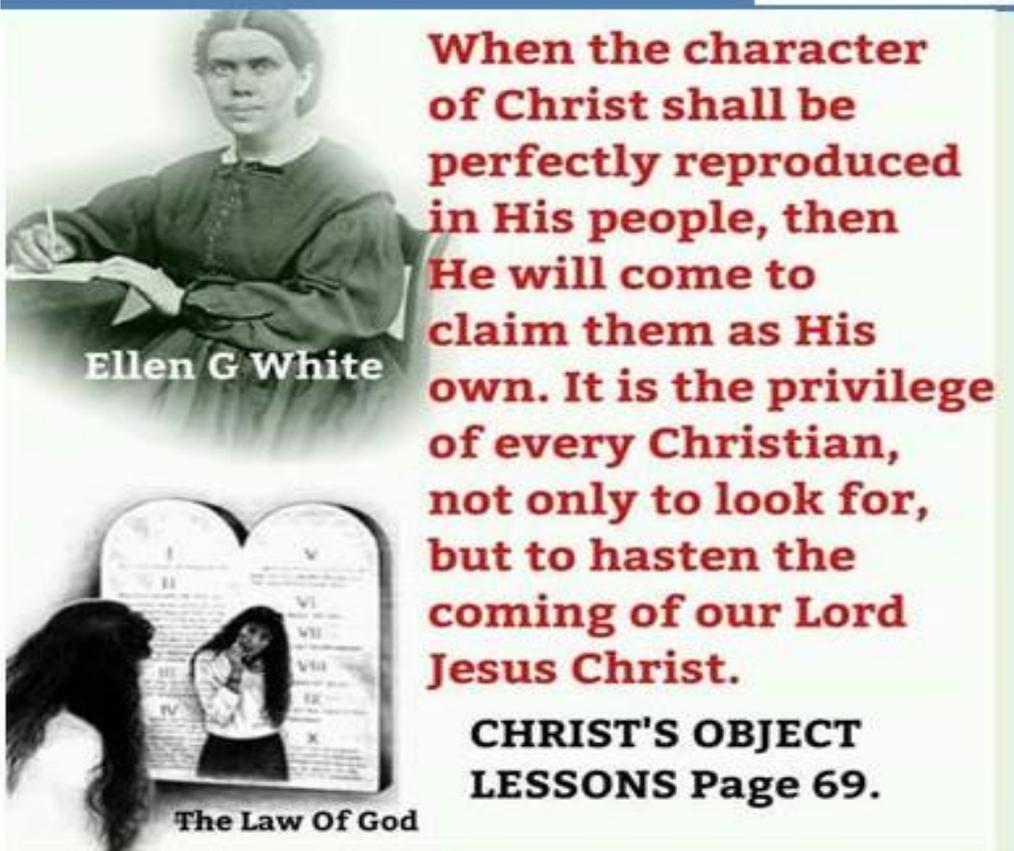
From the scriptures in the table above, we really see that the Law of God is the transcript of His character. “The law of God is the standard by which character is to be tested; if we erect a standard to suit ourselves, and attempt to follow a criterion of our own devising, we shall utterly fail to secure heaven at last. . . . {OHC 138.3}”

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The Ten Commandments are the standard of Christian Character.

God requires perfection of His children. **His law is a transcript of His own character, and it is the standard of all character.** This infinite standard is presented to all that there may be no mistake in regard to the kind of people whom God will have to compose His kingdom. The life of Christ on earth was a perfect expression of God's law, and when those who claim to be children of God become Christlike in character, they will be obedient to God's commandments. Then the Lord can trust them to be of the number who shall compose the family of heaven. Clothed in the glorious apparel of Christ's righteousness, they have a place at the King's feast. They have a right to join the blood-washed throng. {COL 315.1}

All that shall be redeemed from the earth shall have manifested the character of God in their lives. They shall have a perfect life as God which is in heaven is perfect. They shall have gotten victory over sin.



When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people, then He will come to claim them as His own. It is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRIST'S OBJECT LESSONS Page 69.

Ellen G White

The Law Of God

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

God has given us His holy precepts, because He loves mankind. To shield us from the results of transgression, He reveals the principles of righteousness. The law is an expression of the thought of God; when received in Christ, it becomes our thought. It lifts us above the power of natural desires and tendencies, above temptations that lead to sin. God desires us to be happy, and He gave us the precepts of the law that in obeying them we might have joy. When at Jesus' birth the angels sang,-- "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14), they were declaring the principles of the law which He had come to magnify and make honorable. {DA 308.1}

Let us look at the very first transcript of God's character.(first commandment)

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

Wednesday Bible Study October 18, 2017

The first commandment

Exodus 20:2-3 and Deuteronomy 5:6-7

“I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

As we start today’s study about the First Commandment, it is my prayer that you, like the Psalmist may cry out to God that, “Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law. I am a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. Psalm 119:18, 19, 34, 35.

Jehovah revealed Himself, not alone in the awful majesty of the judge and lawgiver, but as the compassionate guardian of His people: “I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.” He whom they had already known as their guide and deliverer, who had brought them forth from Egypt, making a way for them through the sea, and overthrowing Pharaoh and his hosts, who had thus shown Himself to be above all the gods of Egypt—He it was who now spoke His law. {CTr 114.5}

God brought it to their notice that He was the very one who had delivered them from the Land of Egypt out of slavery/house of bondage and had guided them in the day by a cloudy pillar; and in the night by a pillar of fire. Read Nehemiah 9;12-14

Who is the Lord our God?

In the eleventh verse of Exodus chapter 20, the Lord our God tells us that He is the creator. **For in six days He made heaven and earth, the**

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sea, and all that in them is. And in Hosea 13:4, He says, “Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: **for there is no saviour beside me.**”

But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and He that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine...For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:

The lord our God is thus a creator and Saviour. Then who is the creator?

For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else. Isaiah 45:18” Also read Nehemiah 9:6-7

Let us now read John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. John 1:1 -3

The Bible presents to who the creator is the “WORD” which was with God.

What was the WORD that created all things?

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:14”

The word which was God put off the divinity and got clothed with humanity and in verse 4, the Bible says; “In him was life; and the life was the light of men. John 1:4”

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The “Word” which became flesh without which was not anything made that was made is Jesus Christ. Jesus is the light and life of all men.

God the Father testifying of the son as the creator of heaven and earth says, “....Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom....And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands Hebrews 1:8, 10”

Since the one who gave the Law on Mt. Sinai was the creator and the creator being proven as Jesus Christ, it follows that it was Jesus Christ who thus spake all these words saying, “I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

Therefore, the fear, worship and glory depicted in the first angel’s message in Revelation 14:6-7 should be given to Jesus Christ.

Does God the Father recommend us to worship the Son-Jesus Christ?

And being found in fashion as a man, He[Jesus Christ] humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and [things] under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:8-11. For this reason, we are thus told, “Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God; him shalt thou serve, and to him shalt thou cleave, and swear by his name.(Deuteronomy 10:20) Also Read Acts 4:12

Let us go back to Exodus 20:2

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

In this first commandment, God says,...which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. The bible portrays the Israelites being delivered by God from the land of Egypt. Delivered from what? Bondage. So, we need to study: When did the Israelites go to Egypt? How did the free Israelites come into bondage? What kind of bondage were they in?

Why did God deliver these Israelites? How is Ancient Israelites' bondage applied to modern Israel (the professed people of God)?

When did the Israelites go to Egypt?

And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die. Genesis 45:28

Where was Joseph by then? **Let us read, Genesis 46:1-6.** God allowed Jacob to go to Egypt where his son Joseph was. He told him in a night vision that, "fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation: However in verse 4, God promised to bring back Israel back to Canaan. Here it read, "I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again:

How did the free Israelites come into bondage in the land of Egypt?

Read Exodus 1:1-14 But as time rolled on, the great man to whom Egypt owed so much, and the generation blessed by his labors, passed to the grave. And "there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph." Not that he was ignorant of Joseph's services to the nation, but he wished to make no recognition of them, and, so far as possible, to bury them in oblivion. "And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land." {PP 241.3-4}

Also read PP 242.1

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Why did God bring the Israelites out of Egypt?

Let us read the following verses to find out what was happening in Egypt.

Exodus 3:7 Exodus 6:5

The time had fully come when God would have Moses exchange the shepherd's staff for the rod of God, which he would make powerful in accomplishing signs and wonders, in delivering his people from oppression, and in preserving them when pursued by their enemies.

The Egyptians had made slaves of the children of Israel, when they were not slaves, and the Egyptians were not entitled to their labor. They had only allowed the children of Israel a sustenance, and had enriched themselves with the labor which they had extorted from them. They had oppressed them, and bound them down under heavy burdens, until God interposed in their behalf. {1SP 172.1}

Application of Israelites' Bondage in the last days.

Is Israel a servant? is he a homeborn slave? Why is he spoiled? For of old time I have broken thy yoke, and burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot. Jeremiah 2:14, 20

Are God's chosen people (modern Israel) in these last days under bondage? Are they homeborn slaves? What is enslaving them? We read concerning the mission of Christ as it was announced by Himself in Nazareth, that He came to preach **deliverance to the captives,** and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.(Luke 4:18)

...The work of Christ was to rescue those who were bowed down by the power of Satan, and to set them free from his yoke of bondage. Then why is it that so many choose to remain bound to Satan's chariot? Why

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is it that men do not accept of God's promises?--The reason is that Satan is presenting to every human intelligence the temptations he presented to Christ in the wilderness, and they are carried away with his delusions. They look on the things that are temporal, and lose sight of that which is spiritual and eternal; they do not realize the value of the exceeding and eternal weight of glory. They permit the business of this life to engross their attention and to take up their time. {ST, April 16, 1894 par. 6}

How do we get into bondage?

Romans 6:16

The last part of the first commandment declares, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." When we do not obey the true God- the creator of heaven and Earth, the sea and all that in them is, we become bound to the gods we obey because the bible says, "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey;" No man can serve two masters. The children of the wicked One are their own master's servants, and to whom they yield themselves servants to obey, his servants they are. Until they renounce the Devil and all his works, they cannot be the servants of God.

"To whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey." **If we indulge anger, lust, covetousness, hatred, selfishness, or any other sin, we become servants of sin.** "No man can serve two masters." If we serve sin, we cannot serve Christ. The Christian will feel the promptings of sin, for the flesh lusteth against the Spirit; but the Spirit striveth against the flesh, keeping up a constant warfare. Here is where Christ's help is needed. Human weakness becomes united to divine strength, and faith exclaims, "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" {RH, November 15, 1887 par. 10}

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Are you free and a servant of Christ or you are still under bondage of sin?

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Romans 6:16

What stern truth is here spoken! How many there are who boast that they are not in bondage to any one, when they are bound to the most cruel of all tyrants! They have placed themselves under Satan's training, and they treat God's people as he directs them to. How many there are who hear the word of truth, but hate the message and the messenger, because the truth disturbs them in their deceptive practises! {ST, March 28, 1900 par. 5} ...Many, while professing to be servants of Christ, are obeying another master, working daily against the Master whom they profess to serve. "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." {2T 442.1} Also read {ST, December 1, 1887 par. 2}

These words offended the Pharisees. The nation's long subjection to a foreign yoke, they disregarded, and angrily exclaimed, "We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest Thou, Ye shall be made free?" Jesus looked upon these men, the slaves of malice, whose thoughts were bent upon revenge, and sadly answered, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

They were in the worst kind of bondage,--ruled by the spirit of evil. {DA 466.2}....**They were in the worst of bondage, ruled by the spirit of evil.** Jesus declared to them that if they were the true children of Abraham, and lived in obedience to God, they would not seek to kill one who was speaking the truth that was given him of God. This was

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not doing the works of Abraham, whom they claimed as their father.
{2SP 356.1}

Do you also, like the Jews say that you bound to no man?

Every soul that refuses to give himself to God is under the control of another power. He is not his own. He may talk of freedom, but he is in the most abject slavery. He is not allowed to see the beauty of truth, for his mind is under the control of Satan. While he flatters himself that he is following the dictates of his own judgment, he obeys the will of the prince of darkness. Christ came to break the shackles of sin-slavery from the soul. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" sets us "free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:2. {DA 466.3}

How are we freed from slavery of sin?

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free." Gal. 5:1. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:36.

Does anybody doubt it? Let me prove it to you. You will agree that we are made free by faith. When faith comes, we are no longer in prison....Faith lays hold of acts, things actually accomplished, and nothing else. Faith does not make facts, it only believes them. We do not make a thing so by believing it; we believe it, or at least ought to, because it is so.

Therefore the fact that we get freedom in Christ by faith, and that anybody can have the same freedom by faith, proves that the freedom is already given to all. They have only to grasp it, and walk at liberty. Our part is to say with the psalmist, "O Lord, truly I am Thy servant; . . . Thou hast loosed my bonds." Ps. 116:16. {1899 EJW, SAJC 8.2}

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Christ declared freedom to those who would know the truth... "He said, "if ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." {DA 466.1}

We are bound by Satan. "Every one that committeth sin is the bond-servant of sin." John 8:34. "His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins." Prov. 5:22. Sin is the cord with which Satan binds us. But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. Romans 6:17-18

How can separation from sin be effected?

There is no hope of effecting a separation from sin by any ordinary means. No matter how much we may desire to be united to Christ, it can not be done while we are joined to sin; for the law will not sanction such a union, and Christ will not enter into any union that is not lawful. **If we could only get sin to die, we should be free, but it will not die. There is only one way for us to be freed from the hateful union, and that is for us to die.** If we wish freedom so much that we are willing to be crucified, then it may be done. In death the separation is effected; for it is by the body of Christ that "we" become dead. We are crucified with him. The body of sin is also crucified. But while the body of sin is destroyed, we have a resurrection in Christ. The same thing that frees us from the first husband, unites us to the second. {April 16, 1896 EJW, SITI 244.5}

The union with the second husband can not take place while the first husband is living; and in this case the marriage is so perfect, the two parties being literally one flesh and blood, that one can not die without the other; therefore we must needs die with sin, before we can be separated from it. But we die in Christ, and as he lives, although he was dead, we also live with him. But in his life there is

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no sin, and so the body of sin is destroyed, while we are raised. Thus in death we are separated from the first husband, sin, and united to the second husband, Christ. {April 23, 1896 EJW, SITI 259.1}

...Now we see how it is that we are dead to the law. We died in Christ, and were raised in him. But "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God." 2 Cor. 5:17, 18. Now we may be united to Christ, and the law will witness to the union, and sanction it. For not only is the first husband dead, but we also died, so that, although alive, we are not the same creature that we were before. "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Gal. 2:20. We are one. The same law that formerly declared us to be sinners now binds us to Christ. {April 16, 1896 EJW, SITI 244.6}

...Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him." We can see how apt this is when we know that it is our death with Christ that frees us from the union with the monster sin, and unites us in marriage to Christ. People get married in order to live together. So we become united to Christ in order that we may live with him here and in the world to come. If we would live with him in the world to come, we must live with him in this world. E. J. W. {April 16, 1896 EJW, SITI 244.10}

Now that the union with Christ has been effected, we serve in newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter. In marriage, the woman is to be subject to the husband. So when we were united to sin, we were in all things subject to sin. For a time it was willing service; but when we saw the Lord, and were drawn to him, the service became irksome. We tried to keep God's law, but were bound, and could not. But now we are set free. Sin no longer restrains us, and our service is freedom. We gladly render to Christ all the service that the law requires of us. We render this service because of the perfect union between us.

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His life is ours, since we were raised only by the power of his life. Therefore our obedience is simply his loyalty and faithfulness in us. {April 16, 1896 EJW, SITI 244.7}

A practical example of the way in which Christ makes men free is recorded in Luke 13:10-12:- Pay special attention to the words of Jesus to the woman, uttered while she was yet bound down, and unable to lift herself up: "Thou art loosed from thine infirmity." "Thou art loosed," present tense. That is just what He says to us. To every captive He has proclaimed deliverance. "The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down." Ps. 145:14.

There is not a single soul that is bowed down with the weight of sin which Satan hath bound on him, whom Christ does not lift up. Let the message be sounded far and wide. Let every soul hear it, that Christ has given deliverance to every captive. {1899 EJW, SAJC 8.1}

Don't go to arguing with the Lord, and saying that you cannot walk straight. He says that you are loosed, and that is enough. Hold fast to His words in the face of the devil, and you will find that they will never fail you. The word which says, "Thou art free," is the word that keeps you free. Don't let it go from your mind. E. J. WAGGONER. {1899 EJW, SAJC 8.3}

The fact that Christ has bought us, together with our sins, and has paid the price. Therefore there is no room for the question, "Will He accept us?" He has already accepted you. Why does a man buy an article at the store?-Because he wants it. If he has paid the price for it, having examined it so as to know what he was buying, does the merchant worry lest he will not accept it?-Not at all; the merchant knows that it is his business to get the goods to the purchaser as soon as possible. {1899 EJW, SAJC 6.2}

There is no chance for anyone to object, "But I am so sinful and unworthy." That makes no difference; a man will accept what he

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deliberately purchases, especially if he has paid a great price for it; and Christ "gave Himself for our sins." There is nothing in the whole universe that God desires so much as us and all the sins we have. We have only to praise "the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in the Beloved." Eph. 1:6. {1899 EJW, SAJC 6.3}

What right had Christ to take the captives out of the enemy's hands?-- The right of having made a sacrifice that satisfies the principles of justice by which the kingdom of heaven is governed.

He came to this earth as the Redeemer of the lost race, to conquer the wily foe, and, by His steadfast allegiance to right, to save all who accept Him as their Saviour. On the cross of Calvary He paid the redemption price of the race. And thus He gained the right to take the captives from the grasp of the great deceiver, who, by a lie, framed against the government of God, caused the fall of man, and thus forfeited all claim to be called a loyal subject of God's glorious everlasting kingdom. {1SM 309.4}

Our ransom has been paid by our Saviour. No one need be enslaved by Satan. Christ stands before us as our all-powerful helper. "In all things it behoved him to made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted" (Hebrews 2:17, 18). {1SM 309.5}

As we end this study, ask yourself, "How much have I neglected Jesus Christ to enter into my heart? Will you open your heart for Him after He has declared, "it is finished, He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Rev 22:11? It will be so painful to perish in your sins yet there is a sin pardoning saviour.

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There is no sadder spectacle than that of those who have been purchased by the blood of Christ . . . turning to jest the messages graciously sent to them in the gospel, denying the divinity of Christ, and trusting to their own finite reasoning, and to arguments that have no foundation.....{Mar 37.2}

How terrible it is to stand by the coffin of one who has rejected the appeals of divine mercy! How terrible to say: Here is a life lost! Here is one who might have reached the highest standard, and gained immortal life, but he surrendered his life to Satan, became ensnared by the vain philosophies of men, and was a plaything of the evil one! The Christian's hope is an anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast, and entereth into that which is within the veil, whither Christ the forerunner is for us entered. **We have an individual work to do to prepare for the great events that are before us.** {Mar 37.3}

The youth should seek God more earnestly. **The tempest is coming, and we must get ready for its fury by having repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.** The Lord will arise to shake terribly the earth. We shall see troubles on all sides. Thousands of ships will be hurled into the depths of the sea. Navies will go down, and human lives will be sacrificed by millions. **Fires will break out unexpectedly,** and no human effort will be able to quench them. The **palaces of earth will be swept away** in the fury of the flames. Disasters by rail will become more and more frequent; confusion, collision, and **death without a moment's warning** will occur on the great lines of travel. **The end is near, probation is closing.** Oh, let us seek God while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near! The prophet says: "Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness,

seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." {Mar 37.4}

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Wednesday Bible Study, October 25, 2017

Examining more deeply the first commandment.

I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **Thou shalt have no other gods before me.** Exodus 20:2-3

What are the other gods?

Jehovah, the eternal, self-existent, uncreated One, Himself the Source and Sustainer of all, is alone entitled to supreme reverence and worship. **Man is forbidden to give to any other object the first place in his affections or his service.** Whatever we cherish that tends to lessen our love for God or to interfere with the service due Him, of that do we make a god. {PP 305.4}

2 Corinthians 4:4	the god of this world.(satan)
Deuteronomy 17:3	the sun, or moon, or any of the host of heaven.
2 kings 23:5	Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.
Deuteronomy 4:19	the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven,
Judges 10:6	Baalim and Ashtaroth
Philippians 3:19	Thine belly may also be a god.
2 Thessalonians 2:3	The man of sin

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Can we have gods after not before?

No man can serve two masters. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Whether before or after God, command is, thou shalt not have other gods....and understand that I am He, says God, before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any. Isaiah 43:10 and Isaiah 44:8

Deuteronomy 6:4,13-11-14 Romans 1:20-25

Summary

Let men worship and serve the Lord God, and Him only. Let not selfish pride be lifted up and served as a god. Let not money be made a god. If sensuality is not kept under the control of the higher powers of the mind, base passion will rule the being. Anything that is made the subject of undue thought and admiration, absorbing the mind, is a god chosen before the Lord. {SD 56.4}

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”