

What the 1st Commandment Forbids

1st – It Forbids Atheism, Idolatry, and Irreverence.

Atheism is not believing that there is a God. It also includes Agnosticism or the belief that there is not enough evidence to prove that there is a God.

Psalms 14: 1 Psalms 19: 1-6 John 7: 16-18

Idolatry is worshipping other gods by setting them before us as statues or worshipping them by setting them up in our hearts. It is receiving and believing the teaching of false religion and engaging in the practices of false religion.

Psalms 106: 19-23 and 28-31 and 34-39 Ezekiel 14: 1-8 1 John 5: 21 2 Timothy 4: 10

Hosea 4: 11 Numbers 25: 1-13

Irreverence is manifesting a careless, lazy, or disrespectful attitude towards God in our thoughts and actions. Psalms 89: 1-8 Psalms 96: 4-9

It Forbids Denying and Forgetting God and Forgetting that His Word, spoken to us in the Bible, is meant to be remembered and obeyed.

Proverbs 30: 1-9 Deuteronomy 6: 10-15 Psalms 119: 12-16 Psalms 9: 15-20

Philippians 3: 17-19 Prayerlessness is forgetting and denying God – Jeremiah 10: 23-25

Titus 1: 10 – 2: 1 2 Timothy 3: 1-5 and 4: 1-5 Hosea 4: 1-6 Psalms 22: 25-31

Ephesians 4: 11-16 Romans 16: 17-20 John 14: 21-26

Forgetting God's Word is forgetting God. Remembering God's Word is remembering God.

Sound Doctrine consists of propositions of truth derived from the Bible that can be stated concisely.

It Forbids Vile, Vain, or Blasphemous Thoughts of Him.

Psalms 10: 1-4 and 11-13 - The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God. God is in none of his thoughts. The wicked does not believe that God will require an account.

Romans 1: 20 and 21 - Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were they thankful, but became futile in their thoughts.

Leviticus 24: 15 and 16 - Whoever blasphemes the Lord is worthy of death.

Matthew 12: 22-32 - Whoever blasphemes the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven in this age or in the age to come. See also Luke 12: 8-10

Matthew 9: 1-8 – Jesus accused of blasphemy for forgiving a man's sins; which means that He really was God.

John 10: 31-38 – Jesus is accused of blasphemy because He, being a man, made Himself out to be God.

Conclusion – Taken from Ezekiel Hopkins on the Ten Commandments – “Try, therefore, your love to God by these three things. Are your desires fervent and affectionate after him 1 Do you find a holy impatience in your spirit till you enjoy Him? "Will nothing else satisfy you but God? Can you say that there is none in heaven nor in earth that you desire in comparison with him; and if the whole world were thrown into your bosom for your portion, you would pluck it thence and cast it at your feet, resolving that you will not be put off with such trifles. Do you find a joy springing and diffusing itself through your hearts when you are engaged in communion with him; a sweet and potent delight, to which all the pleasures of sin are but flat and insipid? Are you jealous for the Lord of hosts? Are your anger and grief never so much kindled for any wrongs that are done unto yourself, as they are for the provocations that are daily committed against the great Majesty of heaven? Canst thou mourn and weep for these in secret ; and if thou hast power and authority to do it, punish and avenge them openly. Then thou mayest for thy comfort conclude that certainly God hath kindled this heavenly flame of love in thy breast ; a flame that aspires heaven-ward, and will at last carry up thy soul with it, and lodge it there, where the desire of love shall be satisfied, the joy of love perfected, and the zeal of love eternally rewarded.