

**Scripture:** Numbers 20:1-13

**Singing:** 30:1-3 – 266:1-3 -- 290:6, 11 – 373:1-2; 9, 10

**THE SECOND COMMANDMENT: TREAT ME HONORABLY! (3)**

I. God's intent II. God's command III. God's warning & promise

**II. GOD'S COMMAND**

A. When we worship Him according to His glory: 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15-16

1. Worship Him *in spirit* as He is an infinite Spirit (John 4:23-24)

2. Worship Me *in truth*: in an appropriate reflection of His character

a. Is our mental image of God Biblically accurate? (Ps. 50:21)

b. Is our mental image according to God's sermon about God (Ex. 34:6-7)

c. Where will a misrepresentation of God lead to?

3. Worship Me *in beauty of holiness* (Ps. 29:2; 96:9)

a. refers to the *acts of approach and worship in the temple* (Ps. 50:1-2)

● Calvin: *The beauty of the temple is an expression intended to beget a reverential view of the temple, that men may approach it with humble fear, instead of rushing without consideration into God's presence. The clause which follows in the verse is inserted for the same purpose — tremble before his face, intimating that we should prostrate ourselves as suppliants before him when we consider his awful majesty*

● John Gill: *In this and the three preceding verses there is a manifest allusion to the form of addresses made to kings in the eastern nations; who being arrayed, and seated in a majestic manner, with all the marks of royal honour and dignity about them, whom their subjects approach with ascriptions of glory to them; bringing presents in their hands, and bowing down to the ground before them, as the word for "worship" signifies; expressing the utmost awe and reverence of them as 'fear before Him, all the earth' indicates!*

- b. though God looks at the heart, He does look at the outward details  
He has specified as important: Is. 66:2; Ex. 19:10-13; 17; 1 Sam. 6:6

### **III. GOD'S WARNING & PROMISE**

A. God's warning: *dishonoring Me is self-destructive*

1. God calls the sin against the 1st and 2nd commandment: *hating Him!*
2. God warns: *I will leave you to the 3rd and 4th generation*

B. God's promise: *those that honor Me, I will honor for a thousand*: Deut. 7:9

1. Take note of the Gospel wording of His law: *show **mercy ...!***

**Application:** *We need to examine our worship at every level?*

A. Is our 'worship-details' according to the God-given will to honor Him?

1. God is not against appropriate *cultural traditions* as long as they *done decently and in order* while they remain *traditions*
2. Paul's principles of *conduct* is our guidance: 1 Cor. 6:12; 10:23
  - a. there is 'Christian freedom' in things God has not specified in worship
3. Let us all do some *soul searching* about Jesus' rebuke of Jewish church:  
Mark 7:6-13

Serve the LORD with *gladness*;  
Come before Him with *singing*;  
Enter into His gates with *thanksgiving*,  
And into His courts with *praise*.  
Serve the LORD with *fear*,  
And rejoice with *trembling*.  
Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God  
*acceptably with reverence and godly fear*.  
For our God is a consuming fire.