

No Substitutions

Description

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Exodus 20:4-6

Substitution is the act of *replacing* someone or something with another person or thing. Substitutions happen throughout our lives. My son had a substitute teacher in his classroom since his teacher was away for the day.

God was setting the groundwork, the parameters for healthy relationships between God and others. The commandments hinged on the first: You shall have no other gods before me (Exodus 20:3). If we keep this first commandment, the others tend to fall in line in our lives.

Problems start to form when we believe we can substitute a god for the God. No substitution exists for God. The only thing you can replace God with is an idol, and that is an unfair, unhealthy, unequal substitution that only leads to sin and death.

Today examine your own heart and life. Have you made a substitution on the throne of your heart? If so, restore God to His rightful place in your life. If not, praise God for His grace which makes our righteousness even possible.

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