

“No Other Gods”
“不可有別的神”

Exod. 出埃及記 20:1-3
Rev. Milton Eng



**Chinese American
WWII Veterans
Recognition Project**







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The Numbering of the Ten
Commandments
十誡的編號

What the Bible Tells Us

聖經告訴我們什麼

- Deut. 4:13
He declared to you his covenant, the Ten Commandments, which he commanded you to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets.
- Scholars call the Ten Commandments → the Decalogue → the “ten words”

Numbering the Commandments

Exod.	Jewish	Protestant	Catholic/Lutheran
20:2 “I am the LORD ...”	1	(Prologue)	1
20:3 “no other gods”	2	1	1
20:4-6 “no graven images”	2	2	1

The Ten Commandments are Both
Absolute and Relative
十誡既是絕對的又是相對的

The Ten Commandments are Absolute

十誡是絕對的

- Only commandments given twice (Exod. 20; Deut. 5)
唯一給了兩次的誡命（出埃及記 20；申命記 5）
- Only time God spoke directly, “face to face” to the people (Deut. 5:4)
唯一上帝直接向人們“面對面”說話（申命記 5:4）
- Written by the finger of God on stone (Exod. 31:18)
神用指頭在石頭上寫（出 31:18）
- Deposited in the Ark of the Covenant (Deut. 10:5)
存放在約櫃中（申命記 10:5）

The Ten Commandments are Relative

十誡是相對的

- Exod. 20 and Deut. 5 are slightly different
出埃及記20章和申命記第5章略有不同
- As believers today we don't honor the Sabbath literally
作為今天的信徒，我們並不從字面上尊重安息日
- * The numbering is different in various traditions
* 不同傳統的編號不同

The Number One Commandment 第一條誡命

“You shall have no other gods before me.”

除了我以外，你不可有別的神。

Is this teaching monotheism?

這是教導一神論嗎？

- Ex. 出埃及記20:1 And God spoke all these words 神吩咐這一切的話說:
- Ex. 出埃及記20:2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 我是耶和華你的神，曾將你從埃及地為奴之家領出來。
- Ex. 出埃及記20:3 “You shall have no other gods before me. 除了我以外，你不可有別的神。

Egyptian gods



Isis



Osiris



Ra



Horus



Anubis



Sobek



Thoth



Hathor



Amon



Seth

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Yahweh

יהוה

The Israelites had many problems worshipping other gods! 以色列人在敬拜別神有很多問題！

- Josh. 約書亞記 24:14
“Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 現在你們要敬畏耶和華，誠心實意地侍奉他，將你們列祖在大河那邊和在埃及所侍奉的神除掉，去侍奉耶和華。
- 1Kings 列王紀上 18:21
Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.” But the people said nothing. 以利亞前來對眾民說：「你們心持兩意要到幾時呢？若耶和華是神，就當順從耶和華；若巴力是神，就當順從巴力。」眾民一言不答。

Later in the OT, monotheism is clearer.

舊約越往後，一神論更加清晰。

- Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me. 耶和華說：「你們是我的見證，我所揀選的僕人。既是這樣，便可以知道，且信服我，又明白我就是耶和華，在我以前沒有真神，在我以後也必沒有。(Is 以賽亞書 43:10)
- I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. 「耶和華以色列的君，以色列的救贖主，萬軍之耶和華如此說：『我是首先的，我是末後的，除我以外，再沒有真神。(Is 以賽亞書 44:6)
- I am the LORD , and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. 『我是耶和華，在我以外並沒有別神，除了我以外再沒有神。你雖不認識我，我必給你束腰，(Is 以賽亞書 45:5)

Then, what does it mean? 那麼，這是什麼意思呢？

- “Exclusive Worship”
- henotheism (not monotheism): “adherence to one particular god out of several, especially by a family, tribe, or other group.”
- A commitment to one god only
- NLT “You must not have any other god but me.” (Ex. 20:3)
- A commitment to putting God first

No Different in the NT

新約中沒有什麼不同

- Matt. 6:24 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” 「一個人不能侍奉兩個主，不是惡這個愛那個，就是重這個輕那個。你們不能又侍奉神，又侍奉瑪門。」
- Matt. 22:37 Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 耶穌對他說：「你要盡心、盡性、盡意愛主你的神。這是誡命中的第一，且是最大的

David L. Baker,
*The Decalogue:
Living as the
People of God*
(p. 48).

- Faith in one God, who alone is worthy of worship, is at the heart of the first commandment. However, the commandment is not primarily an affirmation of monotheism. It is a call to make choices and set priorities, to put the one God before all other rivals for one's loyalty and devotion whether spiritual or material, true or false. Faith is not just a matter of reciting a creed, signing a doctrinal statement, or affirming belief in one God (cf. Jas 2:19). Nor is worship limited to singing hymns, reading liturgies, preaching sermons, and celebrating sacraments. These may be requirements for participation in a faith community and doubtless serve to foster faith and deepen devotion. But the first commandment goes deeper than any of them, challenging hearers to decide what is really most important in their lives.