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Section: Commands (Law)

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q46. Why does God give the second commandment: You shall not make for yourself an idol?**

So we will serve, worship, and glorify God and nothing else.

**Why did God make us?** God made us to glorify Him, so His glory would be known and praised. (Q15, WOTC)

* **Idolatry**

Our hearts are ‘idol factories’ (John Calvin)

**Romans 1:18-25**For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

**What is the sin of idolatry?** Idolatry is worshiping or finding hope, identity, significance, purpose, or security in anything other than in God, our Creator. (Q34, WOTC)

**Exodus 20:4-5a** You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God,

* **God’s Jealousy is Righteous**

**2 Corinthians 11:2** For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

**James 4:2a** You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

* **Made to Worship**

***So we will serve, worship and glorify God and NOTHING ELSE****!*

**Isaiah 42:8** I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

* **Nothing Can Be Elevated in Your Heart and Life to Be Anywhere Equal With God**

**Luke 14:26** If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

**1 Samuel 12:20b-21** Yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty.

**Hosea 8:4b** With their silver and gold they made idols for their own destruction.

**James 4:2a**You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

* **Fear of Man**

**John 12:42-43** Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

* **Idolatry Always Leads to Slavery**

**Colossians 3:5**Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Epithumia = Is both an evil desire and an over desire- an excessive desire.

“The evil in our desire typically does not lie in what we want, but that we want it too much.” (John Calvin)

“There is not one personal transformation in which the heart is left without an object of ultimate beauty and joy. The heart’s desire for one particular object can be conquered, but it’s desire to have some object is unconquerable. The only way to dispossess the heart of an old affection is by the expulsive power of a new one.”  (Thomas Chalmers)

* **Achieve or Receive**

Achieve – self salvation

RECEIVE the substitutional life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, which brings us to an actual Salvation.

**Colossians 3:1-4**If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.