

**First Word: God only allows one God and He is Him
(Exodus 20.1-3; 07-05-20am)**

Central thought: God will not tolerate any competitors

Context: God introduces Himself by identifying Himself. Exodus 20.2 (cf. 3.13-15, and 34.6-7)

I. The first word about God: He will not tolerate competition

1. God is one God
2. God is a personal God
3. God is the exclusive God

II. The first word on the gospel: any relationship with God must be on His terms

1. God decides the terms for a relationship Those terms include His love and His authority
 - a. Love (Ex 20.6; Ex 34.6-7; Jn 3.16; Rom 5.8; 1 Jn 4.19)
 - b. Authority (Exodus 20.3)
2. God determines the purpose for man (to bring Him glory; Is 43.6-7; Eph 1.3-6)
3. God designed an exclusive gospel (Jn 3.3, 16; cf. Jn 14.6; Acts 4.12)

III. The first word on believers becoming like Jesus: treat the law as your friend, not your enemy

1. Identify other gods
2. Remove other gods
3. Worship one true God
4. Let your failures teach you to rely upon grace