**The Ten Commandments: Worship the Right God in the Right Way**

*“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. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.”* Exodus 20:4-6

**Intro:** The Regulative Principle of Worship

The value of our worship isn’t determined \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or by its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The value of worship lies in its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

* **Jehu and 2 Kings 9-10**[[1]](#footnote-1)

**The 2nd Commandment in 4 Parts:**

1. **The rule: 20:4**
   1. "How should we form thoughts of God? Not only can we not imagine him adequately, since he is at every point greater than we can grasp - we dare not trust anything our imagination says about him, for the built in habit of fallen minds is to scale God down."[[2]](#footnote-2)
2. **The reason: 20:5a**
3. **The warning 20:5b**
4. **The promise: 20:6**

**How does the second commandment lead us to Christ? What does union with Christ mean for how we reflect on the 2nd commandment?**

**Calvin:** "God’s law is thus a dead letter which kills those who follow it when it is separated from the grace of Christ, and when it merely sounds in the ears without touching our hearts. If, however, by God's spirit it is vividly impressed on the will, and if it conveys Jesus Christ to us, it is the word of life, converting souls and giving wisdom to the humble."[[3]](#footnote-3)

1. Ryken, *Written in Stone*, 72–73. I am indebted to Ryken for much of what follows. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Packer, *Keeping the Ten Commandments*, 53. Much of the section on imagination is owed to Packer. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Calvin, *The Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 25. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)