

"You shall have no other gods before Me." - Exodus 20:3     "Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment.' " - Matthew 22:37, 38     How well do we keep the Ten Commandments? Before we consider all ten, we should begin with the first: "You shall have no other gods before Me." Our Lord affirmed that the greatest commandment is to love the LORD our God with all our heart, soul, and mind. This is the foundation of all obedience. Without this love, we fall short before a holy God and are unworthy to enter His presence. The truth is sobering—we have all failed miserably in loving the Lord as He deserves. None of us has kept the greatest commandment perfectly. Yet God, knowing our weakness, did not leave us without hope. He provided for our failure. He reached out to us in mercy and displayed His great love for us through the cross of Christ. All who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him as Lord and Savior are welcomed into God's love—never to be separated from Him. Our standing before God is not upheld by our perfect obedience, but by Christ's perfect obedience and His redeeming sacrifice. Praise the Lord!