

EXODUS 20:3

**YOU MUST NOT
HAVE ANY OTHER GOD BUT ME.**

Question:

086 **QUOTATION QUESTION.** Which is the first of the Ten Commandments?

You must not have any other god but me.
Exodus 20:3 (NLT)

King James Version:

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

New International Version:

You shall have no other gods before me.

The Message:

No other gods, only me.

The Voice:

You are not to serve any other gods before Me.

Definitions & Synonyms

god: idol, master, spirit

me: one God of Abraham creator of the world

must not: don't do it, not allowed

Words (Exodus chapter 20)

After God delivered the people of Israel out of Egypt they came to Mt Sinai and God spoke to Moses and gave him the ten commandments. The first of the ten commandments is "You must not have any other god but me." This was important because in Egypt the people worshiped many gods and God wanted the people to know he was the only God they needed. Today the command is still true and important to follow. There is a God and only one God who sent his son Jesus to die for us. Jesus was asked which was the most important commandment? and he said to Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. Loving God is keeping the first commandment. The Old Testament told us what not to do but Jesus told what we must do.

The memory verse shows us the old law to help us understand the new law brought to us by Jesus. The old law put up barriers and fences to protect us from sin. Jesus paid the sacrifice for our sins so we can live free without fences by love for God and others.

"You must not", most the ten commandments start with what we must not do.

"Have any other god but me." The word "god" is lower case here referring to the gods of the Egypt and of people. The word "me" is referring to God himself the story in Exodus 20 is a record from Moses telling what God spoke to him on Mt. Sinai. The first commandment begins in verse 3 because verses 1 and 2 declare it was God that spoke the word and gave the commandments.

There are many methods for memorizing, the simplest is reading it out loud repeatedly until you can say it without looking. Repeat the verse 10 times out loud always working to say it without looking. Repeat this process each day this week until you can do it three days without looking first. Include the question in your reading as it helps us understand why this verse is important.

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