

Communion Meditation

Ex 20.4-6 "Picturing the True God" November 4th, 2018

v4-5 ~ "You shall not make .. carved image .. you shall not bow down to them"

1. "carved image" ~ Something tangible made with men's hands
 2. "any likeness of anything" ~ All of creation included in ban
 3. "bow down to them nor serve them" ~ Worshipping work of men's hands
- Example of violation is when Aaron made calf when Moses on Mt Sinai
 - Dt 4.12 Moses said "you .. saw no form; you only heard a voice"
 - v15 ~ "Take careful heed .. for you saw no form .. lest you act corruptly"

"But what about pictures or images of Jesus?"

- III: GCP SS material ~ Jesus depicted in SS materials in PCA churches
 - But Jesus was a man...! / Yes – but He was more than a man
- "How did artists depict the divinity of Jesus in paintings?" / light or halo
- "How do Roman Catholics typically portray Jesus?" / On the cross
 - "Is this a truthful way to portray Jesus?" Only part of the truth
 - Cross displays only part of Christ's Person and accomplishment
 - III: Home Improvement ~ Wife's DL picture enlarged for public event

"But what's wrong with imagining or picturing God only in our minds?"

- Visualization has become a common practice in our culture
 - III: Free throws ~ Improves focus & memory, even motor skills
- Yet our imaginations are limited / We bring God down to our level
 - God repeatedly commands us to obey His words
 - And to not follow the inclination of our own evil hearts

Jesus with Samaritan Woman (John 4.18 – 24)

- Jesus told her she'd had 5 husbands and was now living with a man
- She then tries to pick a fight about worshipping in Jerusalem only
- Jesus replies: "You worship what you do not know" and
- "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth"

We must honor the true God – not a God of our own imagination

The true God invites us to His Table to worship Him in spirit and truth