

There Shall Be No Other Gods - Kimo Hoopai, October 15, 2023

This is a powerful topic for me, many times throughout my life I've put a person, place, money, etc., before My Go. Without reading and knowing the true word of God I was heading down a oneway street. Growing up as a young dad and husband I've watched so many men that I idolize and I put them on a pedestal, I became follower, I created an image that was higher than God for that person and actually it was no fault of there's, but mine, only to find out even that person couldn't fill the void in my life, but God Could

Someone Told Me

John 1:1 NIV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Notes : John shows Jesus as fully human and fully God. Although Jesus took it upon himself full humanity and lived as a man, he never ceased to be the eternal God who has always existed, the creator and sustainer of all things, and the source of eternal life

Exodus 20:2-3 NIV ²“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³ “You shall have no other gods before me.

Notes: The Israelites had just come from Egypt, a land of many idols and many gods. Because each god represented a different aspect of life, it was common to worship many gods in order to get the maximum number of blessings. When God told his people to worship and believe in him, that wasn't so hard for them—he was just one more god to add to the list. But when he said, “You must not have any other god but me,” that was difficult for the people to accept. But if they didn't learn that the God who had led them out of Egypt was the only true God, they could not be his people—no matter how faithfully they kept the other nine commandments.

Exodus 34:14 NIV Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

Notes: God told the Israelites not to join in religious rites with the sinful people around them but rather to give their absolute loyalty and exclusive devotion to him. Pagan worship simply cannot be mixed with worship of the holy God. As Jesus pointed out, “No one can serve two masters.

Matthew 4:8-10 NIV ⁸ Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ “All this I will give You,” he said, “if You will fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Notes: The devil offered the whole world to Jesus if Jesus would only kneel down and worship him. Today, the devil offers us the world by trying to entice us with pleasure, possessions, and power. We can resist temptations the same way Jesus did. If you find yourself craving something that the world offers, quote the words Jesus spoke to the devil: “You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.” Jesus' authority over Satan was fully established, and Satan left.

His Instructions

1 Timothy 2:3-6 NIV ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time.

Notes: - Those who insist that there are many bridges to God usually fit into one of the following categories:
[1] They have not personally committed to any “bridge.” They think their belief that there are multiple ways to God will exempt them from having to choose one. [2] Their belief in many ways to God hides their true belief that finding God doesn’t really matter at all. [3] They are convinced that arguing for many ways to God will insure that they won’t be wrong. If there is only one way, their generalized belief will presumably have included it. [4] They have decided that believing in many ways to God requires less work than going to the trouble of actually considering the claims of various religious systems.

John 14:6-7 NIV ⁶ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

Notes: As the Way, Jesus is our path to the Father. He provides clear direction to God. As the Truth, he is the reality of all God’s promises. He provides certainty to people whose lives seem confused and unstable. As the Life, he joins his divine life to ours, both now and eternally. Jesus offers full and complete satisfaction to those who follow him. He is, in truth, the only living way to the Father.

Matthew 22: 37-40 NIV ³⁷Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Notes: Jesus said that if we truly love God and our neighbors, we will naturally keep the commandments. This is looking at God’s law positively. Rather than worrying about all we should not do, let us concentrate on all we can do to show our love for God and others.

In Closing: **John 17:3 NIV** Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

Notes: How do we get eternal life? Jesus tells us clearly here—by knowing God the Father himself through his Son, Jesus Christ. Eternal life requires entering into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. When we admit our sin and turn away from it, Jesus’ love lives in us by the Holy Spirit. AMEN