

AM Sermon Notes

Text: *Exodus 20:1-3*

Title: *God Comes First!*

Central Truth: **Our own personal relationship with God takes rank or priority over everything and everybody else in our lives.**

I. vv. 1 & 2: The Premise

v. 1: Spoke (Hebrew - *dabar*) this word means to speak, talk, to converse.

Saying (Hebrew - *amar*) it means to speak or say. The use of these two words emphasizes to us that God is a communicating God! The Ten Commandments are revelation straight from God Himself.

v. 2: Lord (Hebrew - *Yahweh*) This name comes from the Hebrew verb - to be! This name stresses God's eternal, unchanging, dynamic nature.

God (Hebrew - *Elohim*) This name speaks of God's supreme and creative power. Only Psalm 14:1 and Psalm 53:1 address atheism.

II. v. 3: The Prohibition

The word "**no**" is actually the first word in the text which makes it emphatic! "**before me**" - Literally, "before my face" or "in my face." God is addressing man's sinful tendency toward polytheism.

III. v. 3: The Priority (This is the practical application)

The negative implies a positive! God commands us to make Him the first and top priority in our lives. He tolerates no rivals, competition or substitutes. However, God does not want to relate to us only by law but by love. It is not about rules but relationship!

Applications:
