

No Gods Service  
Exodus 20:5-6  
The Laurel Center  
March 24, 2017

**Main Idea:** Part of the second commandment expands why God says “No card images.”

**Introduction**

When I was growing up I was always suspicious of laws that did not have an explanation. And I always hated it if my parents would say, “Because I told you so.” It’s not that I wanted to disobey the law but I wanted to know why it was there. Most people don’t want to be told what to do. Last time we talked about the second commandment but today we will be sharing the reason why God gave that commandment do not have carved images of deity. This is not a commandment but an expansion of the second commandment and an explanation.

**Exodus 20:5–6**

**5** You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, **6** but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

**I.** Negative – Don’t Now Down

A Do not serve false gods.

B God is jealous and shows love.

1 Deuteronomy 24:16; Ezekiel 18:1-4&

2 God will only visit punishment for a limited time but to those who worship him he will visit prosperity for a much longer time.

3 It is possible that the saying of God about punishment and prosperity has to do with how Israel as a corporate nation dealt with sins in their mid-.

**Deuteronomy 24:16**

**16** “Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. Each one shall be put to death for his own sin.

**Ezekiel 18:4**

**4** Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

**Matthew 4:8–10**

**8** Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. **9** And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” **10** Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’ ”

## **II.** Positive – Serve God

A Worship only God.

B Only God is real.

### **Conclusion**

As we have seen in today’ s message, God does not trust give us black and white commands and laws but also explains and elaborates on them. We are not expected to be blindly following him like children but rather he explains the rationale for why we do what he asks. He is a good God who loves us and cares for us. His commandments are for our protection, safety and freedom. He is a big hearted God who loves us more than anybody else in the entire world.