

You Shall Have No Other Gods Before My Faces.

Worship the True God.¹

Quick Reference
- from -
Secrets of Heaven

Emanuel Swedenborg

"You shall have no other gods before My faces."²

1. [Think what is true] from...the Lord.³
 - a. [Notes:]
 - 1) [In the Scriptures] "gods" mean truths, and in the opposite sense falsities.⁴
 - 2) [Therefore, the words "You shall have no other gods before My face" means "You shall not think what is false," "You shall not think what is from self rather than from the Lord," or the like.]
2. [Think what is true] from...love, mercy, peace and good.⁵
 - a. [Note: In the Scriptures, the word "face" when predicated of God symbolically means God's love. The word] "faces" when predicated of God symbolically means love, mercy, peace, and goodness. [These things--love, mercy, peace, and goodness--thus refer to] the Lord Himself, for it is the Lord from whom these [things] are.⁶
3. [Allow] the Lord universally [to] reign...in each and all of the truths contained in the commandments...that were dictated and commanded from Mount Sinai.⁷
 - a. [Allow] the Lord [to be] within truths.⁸
 - b. [Allow] the Lord as to the divine Human [to reign] universally in each and all things of good and truth.⁹
 - 1) [Note:] The Lord [as to His divine Human is the one who is] meant by "Jehovah God" [in the Word, where it says] "I am Jehovah your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage."¹⁰
 - c. [Allow] the Lord [to be] in each and all things.¹¹
 - d. [Note: The Lord is able to reign universally in you when you...]¹²
 - 1) [Keep the Lord in your] memory.¹³
 - 2) [Believe] that all good and all truth are from [the Lord].
 - a) [Note:] The angels are...in the faith [and] also the perception that [all good and truth are from the Lord].
 - 3) [Love the above idea] to be so.
 - 4) [Allow the Lord to be present] in each and all things of [your] thought, and in each and all things of [your] will.
 - 5) [Allow the Lord to flow in and to make your] life.
 - 6) [Allow the Lord to fill] all things in [you] and to make [your] life.¹⁴
 - 7) [Allow the Lord to constitute your] very mind [and] life.

- 8) [Allow your life to be] the Lord's life in [you].
 - 9) [Allow] the life of [your] will [to be] love from the Lord.
 - 10) [Allow] the life of [your] understanding [to be] faith from the Lord.
 - 11) [Receive] influx of light from the Divine.¹⁵
 - 12) [Allow] the Lord [to be] the all in all of [your experience] of heaven.
 - a) [Note:] The Lord is heaven.
 - 13) [Allow] the Lord [to be] in all the truths and goods of faith with [you], as the heart is in all the blood vessels [of the body].
 - a) [The blood vessels] derive their origin from [the heart].
 - b) [The blood vessels] derive...the blood (which is their life) [from the heart].
 - 14) [Allow] yourself to be] led by the Lord.¹⁶
 - 15) Above all [else, love] the Divine, [think of] the Divine, and [be in fear of doing injury to] the Divine.¹⁷
4. [Be in] truths which are from the Lord. [Note:] Truths which are from...the Lord [are] truths in which the Lord is. [These include the following:]¹⁸
 - a. Truths [that are] with a person when [he or she acknowledges the Lord] and His Divine, and...believes that good and truth are...from Him.¹⁹
 - 1) [Note: This person] consequently [ascribes] righteousness [to the Lord].²⁰
 - b. Truths...which are taken from the Word...and...explained in favor of [the Lord's sovereign rule].²¹
 - c. Truths [which are rightly] explained and thus [preserved].²²
 5. [Further notes on] truths which are from the Lord.²³
 - a. Truths which are from the Lord are always truths in internal form.
 - b. Truths which are not from the Lord appear as truths in external form only but not in internal form.
 - 1) Within [themselves] they are either empty, or false, or evil.
 - c. In order for truth to be truth there must be life in it; for truth without life is not the truth of faith with a person.
 - d. Life is from no other source than good, that is, through good from the Lord.
 - e. [In addition, truths that] are alive are truths of faith [which come] from love to the Lord and from charity toward the neighbor.²⁴
 - f. If therefore the Lord is not in truth, it is truth without life, thus it is not truth.
 - g. [As a general rule] that which is within makes the essence, and also...shines through the outside.
 - h. [Therefore:]
 - 1) [Be in] truths [which are] truths in internal form.
 - 2) [Be in truths that have life and goodness in them from the Lord.]
 - 3) [Be in truths that come] from love to the Lord and from charity toward the neighbor.²⁵
 - 4) [Be in truths that] live from the Lord.²⁶
 - 5) [Be in truths that] are alive.²⁷
 6. [Let the words that you speak be] open [within].²⁸
 - a. [Let there be] affection [within your words]--affection for good.²⁹
 - b. [Let] the words of [your] speech [be] inwardly soft.³⁰
 - c. [Allow] all things of [your] speech [to be] open even to the Lord.³¹
 7. [Final note for this section:]

- a. Everyone has truths according to his or her life, that is, according to that which universally reigns with him or her.³²

"You shall not make to you a graven image..."³³

1. [Worship the Lord as God, not yourself.]
2. Adore [the Lord as God, rather than your own] intellect [or your own] will.
3. [Believe] that...intelligence and wisdom flow in from the Divine.
4. [Allow your] intelligence [to be] from the Lord.
5. [Allow your] intelligence [and] spiritual life [to come] solely from the Lord.³⁴
6. [Allow any] wisdom [that you have to be] from Him.³⁵
7. [Allow] all wisdom that belongs to life [to be] from Him.³⁶
8. [Let the teachings which guide your life be] truths from the Word.
9. Love [what] proceeds from [the Lord] above all things.
 - a. [Note:] All things which go forth from [the Lord] are...truths and goods.³⁷
10. Attribute (or ascribe) all things to [the Divine].
 - a. [Do this] from the heart.
11. [Acknowledge] the Divine Providence in [all] that happens to you.
12. [Acknowledge God] in [your] heart.
13. [Scripture:]
 - a. [Give glory and praise to the Lord alone.]³⁸

"Nor any likeness..."

1. [Entertain] truths from [no other] source than the Divine.³⁹
2. Speak divine things...and...do such things as have been commanded by the Divine, [and at the same time] think...and will [them] at heart.⁴⁰
3. [Be in] charity and faith, [internally as well as in outward life].⁴¹

"Of that which is in the heavens above..."⁴²

1. [Know about, and be genuinely in] the good and truth [that belong to]...⁴³
 - a. Faith.
 - b. Charity toward the neighbor.
 - c. Love to the Lord.

"Or that which is in the earth beneath..."

1. [Be genuinely in] civil and moral good and truth.⁴⁴

"Or of that which is in the waters under the earth."

1. [Let anything you learn through your external senses, or any sensual delight that you experience, be used for good and directed toward what is good].⁴⁵

"You shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them."⁴⁶

1. [Worship the Lord as divine.]
2. [Humble yourself before the Lord.]
3. [Submit yourself to the Lord.]
4. [Notes on humility and submission:]
 - a. [Humility] and submission are essentials of worship.
 - b. Worship without them is not worship, but gesture in imitation of those who are in [true] worship.

- c. Life from the Lord flows...solely into a humble and submissive heart, because such a heart has been fitted to receive.
- d. When the heart is truly humble, nothing of the love of self and love of the world stands in the way.

"For I Jehovah your God..."

- 1. [Allow] the Divine from the Lord [to be] in each and all things.⁴⁷

"Am a zealous God..."

- 1. Receive the divine truth of the Lord's divine good.⁴⁸
- 2. The zeal of the Lord...is love and mercy (or love and compassion).⁴⁹
 - a. [Note:] In the Divine (or in the Lord) there is nothing but pure love and mercy.⁵⁰
- 3. [Allow yourself to be in the atmosphere of the Lord's love, mercy, and compassion, and in that way allow yourself to be spiritually protected by the Lord's] divine truth and divine good.⁵¹
- 4. [Some passages from Scripture:]
 - a. Unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and He called His name Wonderful, Counselor, God, Hero, Father of Eternity, Prince of Peace. To the multiplying of His government and peace there shall be no end. The zeal of Jehovah shall perform this.⁵²
 - b. Thus said the Lord Jehovah, "Now will I bring back the captivity of Jacob, and will have mercy upon the whole house of Israel; and I will be zealous for the name of My holiness."⁵³
 - c. Jehovah shall go forth as a Hero; He shall stir up zeal like a man of war; He shall shout and cry, He shall prevail over His enemies.⁵⁴
 - d. Jehovah shall be zealous for His land and shall spare His people.⁵⁵

"Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the sons upon the thirds and upon the fourths..."⁵⁶

- 1. [Accept the Divine into your life.]
- 2. [Allow truth to proliferate, based in what is good.]
- 3. [Receive] good...continually.
 - a. [Note: By this there is a] successive accumulation of good [traits and tendencies in offspring, and a linking of truths with each other in a long series].

"Of them that hate Me."⁵⁷

- 1. [Acknowledge] the Divine of the Lord.
- 2. Be in good and thence in truth.
 - a. [Note:] So far as people are in good and thence in truth, so far they not only [acknowledge the Divine] but also hold it in [love].
- 3. [Be] in heavenly light.
- 4. See the Human of the Lord [as being divinely] Human.
 - a. [Notes:]
 - 1) The Divine itself is divine love--the being of all life.
 - 2) From conception the Lord was this love, which was thus the inmost being of His life.
 - 3) Thus [the Lord] was Jehovah.

- 4) He glorified His Human to the likeness of this, that is, [He] made it divine.

"And doing mercy to thousands..."⁵⁸

1. [Welcome] the influx of good and truth from the Lord, and the consequent spiritual life, forever.
 - a. [Note: This happens through the process of spiritual rebirth or] regeneration.]

"Of them that love Me..."⁵⁹

1. Receive the good of love [from the Lord].
 - a. [Notes:]
 - 1) They who love the Lord do not love from themselves but from the Lord; for all good flows in from Him.
 - 2) Those [who] love [are those] who desist from evil, because evil stands in the way and rejects the influx of good from the Lord.
 - 3) When evil has been removed good is received.
 - 4) [Good] is continually present from the Lord and endeavoring to enter.

"And keep My commandments."⁶⁰

1. Receive the truths of faith.
2. [Note:] The [Lord's] commandments [are] the truths of faith.
3. [Allow these truths to] flow [into you] from the Lord.
4. [Learn them and store them up in your] memory.
5. [Next,] will them and...do them.
 - a. [Note: In this way] they...become living, [and they become] truths of faith.
6. This is [accomplished] by the Lord when [you desist] from evils.
7. [Therefore, desist] from evils.

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Quick Reference
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The Apocalypse Explained
Emanuel Swedenborg

[Forms of goodness that are related to this commandment:]

1. [Have] faith the there is a God.⁶²
2. [Acknowledge and believe] that there is a God.⁶³
3. In [your] heart believe in the existence of God.⁶⁴
 - a. [Have] faith [in] heart, [which] is faith in internals.⁶⁵
4. Love God.⁶⁶
5. [Let it flow] in through heaven from the Lord that there is a God, who is the Creator and Preserver of the universe,...also that God is one.⁶⁷
 - a. [Notes:]
 - 1) This [is able to flow] in for the reason that when evils have been removed heaven is opened, and when heaven is opened a person no longer thinks from self but from the Lord through heaven; and that there is a God and that God is one is the universal principle in heaven which comprises all things.⁶⁸
 - 2) A person's interior thought, which is the thought of his or her spirit, is...from heaven when [evils] have been removed.⁶⁹
 - 3) When a person thinks from heaven, he or she sees from the light in heaven that there is a God and that He is one.⁷⁰
 - 4) When a person shuns and turns away from evils because they are sins, he or she not only sees from the light of heaven that God is and that God is one, but also that God is Human. For he wishes to see his God, and he is incapable of seeing Him otherwise than as Human.⁷¹
 - 5) There is an intuition...in [the human] spirit to see God as Human.⁷²
 - 6) It follows that those who are of the church where the Word is, if they shun and turn away from evils as sins, see, from the light of heaven in which they then are...
 - a) The Divine in the Lord's Human,
 - b) The trine [that is, the trinity or tri-unity of divine love, divine wisdom, and divine useful service (which is salvation)] in Him,
 - c) And Himself to be the God of heaven and earth.⁷³
 - 7) The idea of God is the primary of all ideas.⁷⁴
 - 8) Such as [a person's idea of God] is, such is [that] person's...⁷⁵
 - a) Communication with heaven.

- b) Union with the Lord.
 - c) Enlightenment.
 - d) Affection for truth and good.
 - e) Perception.
 - f) Intelligence.
 - g) Wisdom.
- 9) These things are not from a person but from the Lord according to union with Him.⁷⁶
 - 10) The idea of God is the idea of the Lord and His Divine, for no [one else] is the God of heaven and the God of earth, as He Himself teaches in Matthew: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."⁷⁷
6. Love heaven.⁷⁸
 7. Love all who acknowledge God,...especially those who acknowledge the Lord.⁷⁹
 8. In [your] heart [support] all [the good and true] things of the church.⁸⁰
 9. [When it comes to governing or ruling over others, be in a love of governing or ruling] from [a] delight in useful services and for the sake of the public good.⁸¹
 10. [When it comes to the love of material things, be in a] love of possessing goods in the world from [a] delight in useful services...and for the sake of the good [that can be accomplished by their means].⁸²
 11. [Note:] So far as [the above] two loves regard useful services in the first place and self in the second they are good.⁸³
 12. [Do] things for the sake of...the church, the country, society, and the neighbor.⁸⁴
 - a. [Note:] The goods that a person does to these for the sake of these are not from the person but from the Lord.⁸⁵
 13. [Accept and receive] goods and their delights from heaven.⁸⁶
 - a. [Confirm these in yourself.]⁸⁷
 - b. [In this way, confirm heaven in yourself.]⁸⁸
 14. [Let] the very delight of [your] life [be] to do [good] deeds of every kind.
 15. In a word, [be an angel].⁸⁹

There Shall be No Other God in My Presence.

Worship the True God.⁹⁰

Quick Reference
- from -
True Christianity
Emanuel Swedenborg

Earthly sense:⁹¹

1. Acknowledge God in heart.
2. [Love] God and what proceeds from God above all else.

Spiritual sense:

1. Worship the Lord Jesus Christ.⁹²
2. Acknowledge and worship...the Lord the Savior, Jesus Christ, who is Jehovah God Himself in human form.⁹³
3. Acknowledge and believe in one God under a visible human form, and that the Lord God the Savior is He.⁹⁴
4. [Believe in the] existence of one divine Person [who is the one God].⁹⁵
5. [Notes:]
 - a. [The Lord Jesus Christ] is Jehovah, who came into the world and wrought the redemption without which neither any person nor any angel could have been saved.⁹⁶
 - b. There is no God beside Him.⁹⁷
 - c. This is evident from the following passages in the Word, [among others that are quoted in this particular reference]:⁹⁸
 - 1) It shall be said in that day, "Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him that He may deliver us; this is Jehovah; we have waited for Him, we will rejoice and be glad in His salvation."⁹⁹
 - 2) I am Jehovah; and besides me there is no Savior.¹⁰⁰
 - 3) Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, God, Mighty, Father of eternity, Prince of peace.¹⁰¹
 - d. [The Lord Jesus Christ] is Jehovah Himself, who is at once Creator, Redeemer, and Regenerator.¹⁰²
 - e. This is our God...and therefore our Savior.¹⁰³

Heavenly sense:¹⁰⁴

1. Jehovah the Lord is infinite, measureless, and eternal.
2. He is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent.
3. He is the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End, who was, is, and is to be.
4. He is love itself and wisdom itself, or good itself and truth itself, consequently life itself.
5. Thus [He is] the one only Being from whom all things are.

Endnotes

- ¹ TC 330
² SH 8867
³ SH 8667
⁴ SH 8867
⁵ SH 8667
⁶ SH 8667
⁷ SH 8667
⁸ SH 8868:3
⁹ SH 8864:1
¹⁰ SH 8864:1-2
¹¹ SH 8667
¹² SH 8865 unless otherwise noted
¹³ SH 8864:3
¹⁴ SH 8875:9
¹⁵ SH 88758
¹⁶ SH 8866
¹⁷ SH 8875:8
¹⁸ SH 8868:1
¹⁹ SH 8868:1
²⁰ SH 8868:1
²¹ SH 8868:1
²² SH 8868:1
²³ SH 8868:2 unless otherwise noted
²⁴ SH 8868:3
²⁵ SH 8868:3
²⁶ SH 8868:3
²⁷ SH 8868:3
²⁸ SH 8868:3
²⁹ SH 8868:3
³⁰ SH 8868:3
³¹ SH 8868:3
³² SH 8868:3
³³ SH 8869:1 unless otherwise noted
³⁴ SH 8869:2
³⁵ SH 8869:7
³⁶ SH 8869:7
³⁷ SH 8869:5
³⁸ Is. 42:8, SH 8869:7
³⁹ SH 8870:1
⁴⁰ SH 8870:2
⁴¹ SH 8870:3
⁴² SH 8870:1 unless otherwise noted
⁴³ SH 8871:3, 8870:1
⁴⁴ SH 8871:1
⁴⁵ SH 8872
⁴⁶ SH 8873 unless otherwise noted
⁴⁷ SH 8874
⁴⁸ SH 8875:1
⁴⁹ SH 8875:1-3
⁵⁰ SH 8875:1-2
⁵¹ SH 8875:1
⁵² Isa. 9:6-7, SH 8875:4
⁵³ Ezek, 39:25, SH 8875:5
⁵⁴ Isa. 42:13, SH 8875:6
⁵⁵ Joel 2:18, SH 8875:6
⁵⁶ SH 8876 unless otherwise noted
⁵⁷ SH 8878 unless otherwise noted
⁵⁸ SH 8879 unless otherwise noted
⁵⁹ SH 8880 unless otherwise noted
⁶⁰ SH 8881 unless otherwise noted
⁶¹ TC 330
⁶² AE 952:2
⁶³ AE 952:2
⁶⁴ AE 951:9
⁶⁵ AE 952:2
⁶⁶ AE 950:3
⁶⁷ AE 954:2
⁶⁸ AE 954:2
⁶⁹ AE 954:2
⁷⁰ AE 954:2
⁷¹ AE 955:4
⁷² AE 955:5
⁷³ AE 956:2
⁷⁴ AE 957:3
⁷⁵ AE 957:3 unless otherwise noted
⁷⁶ AE 957:3
⁷⁷ AE 957:3, Matt. 28:18
⁷⁸ AE 950:3
⁷⁹ AE 951:9
⁸⁰ AE 951:9
⁸¹ AE 950:3, 951:8-9
⁸² AE 950:3, 951:8-9
⁸³ AE 951:8
⁸⁴ AE 951:8
⁸⁵ AE 951:8
⁸⁶ AE 952:2
⁸⁷ AE 952:2
⁸⁸ AE 952:2
⁸⁹ AE 951:9
⁹⁰ TC 330
⁹¹ TC 293 unless otherwise noted
⁹² TC 294
⁹³ TC 296:1
⁹⁴ TC 296:2
⁹⁵ TC 296:4, TC 296:1, 3
⁹⁶ TC 294
⁹⁷ TC 294
⁹⁸ TC 294
⁹⁹ Isa. 25:9
¹⁰⁰ Isa. 43:11; Hos. 13:4
¹⁰¹ Isa. 9:6
¹⁰² TC 294, 296:4
¹⁰³ TC 296:4
¹⁰⁴ TC 295