

**WRITTEN IN  
STONE**



# The First Commandment: Lordship

***EXODUS 20:1-3***



- How We Relate to God (VERTICAL)  
Commands #1-4 – lordship, idolatry, taking God's name in vain, Sabbath
- How We Relate to Our Neighbor (HORIZONTAL)  
Commands #5-10 – father and mother, murder, adultery, stealing, lying, coveting

# ***DIVIDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS***



- Means “supreme authority”
- God is the ultimate God and the only God.
- Any acceptance of another god, in any form, is a denial of His Lordship.

***LORDSHIP***

| Theistic view | Definition                                    |
|---------------|---|
| Polytheism    | More than 1 god and no god is supreme         |
| Henotheism    | More than 1 god but 1 god is supreme          |
| Pantheism     | No separation between God and the universe    |
| Autotheism    | Men operating like gods in their own universe |
| Monotheism    | Only 1 God                                    |



“If ‘God loves me’ is the message of Christianity, then who is the object of Christianity? Me. Christianity’s object is me. Therefore, when I look for a church, I look for the music that best ...”



***DAVID PLATT***



“...fits me and the programs that best cater to me and my family. When I make plans for my life and career, it is about what works best for me and my family. When I consider the house I will live in, the car I will drive, the clothes I will wear, the way ...”



***DAVID PLATT***



“... I will live, I will choose according to what is best for me. This is the version of Christianity that largely prevails in our culture. But it is not biblical Christianity. The message of biblical Christianity is God loves me so that ...”



***DAVID PLATT***



“... I might make him – his ways, his salvation, his glory, and his greatness – known among all nations.’ Now God is the object of our faith, and Christianity centers around him. We are not the end of the gospel; God is.”



***DAVID PLATT***



1. Is intimate – “*you shall.*”

2. Is exclusive – “*have no other gods before Me.*”

**LORDSHIP**



1. Is intimate – “*you shall*”

***LORDSHIP***



“I think that many of us, when Christ has enabled us to overcome one or two sins that were an obvious nuisance, are inclined to feel (though we do not put it into words) that we are now good enough. He has done all we wanted him to do, and we should be obliged if ...



***C.S. LEWIS***



“... he would leave us alone. But the question is not what we intended ourselves to be, but what he intended us to be when he made us. ...

Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand ...



***C.S. LEWIS***



“... what he is doing.  
He is getting the drains  
right and stopping the  
leaks in the roof and so  
on. You knew that those  
jobs needed doing and  
so you are not surprised.

But presently he starts  
knocking the house  
about in a way that hurts  
abominably and does ...



***C.S. LEWIS***



“... not seem to make sense. What on earth is he up to? The explanation is that he is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards....



***C.S. LEWIS***



“... You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage, but he is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it himself.



***C.S. LEWIS***



1. Is intimate – “*you shall*”

2. Is exclusive – “*have no other gods before Me.*”

***LORDSHIP***



*God has taken his place in the divine  
council, in the midst of the gods he holds  
judgment.*

**PSALM 82:1**



*There is none besides me; I am the LORD,  
and there is no other.*

**ISAIAH 45:6**



*<sup>14</sup> Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup> And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*

**JOSHUA 24:14-15**



*And Elijah came near to all the people and said,  
'How long will you go limping between two  
different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him;  
but if Baal, then follow him.'*

**1 KINGS 8:21**



*If anyone would come after me,  
let him deny himself and take up his cross and  
follow me. For whoever would save his life will  
lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will  
find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the  
whole world and forfeits his soul?*

**MATTHEW 16:24-**



“A God is that to which we look for all good and in which we find refuge in every time of need. To have a God is nothing else than to trust and believe Him with our whole heart. As I have often said, the trust and faith of the heart alone makes both god and idol. If your faith and trust ...”



**MARTIN LUTHER**



“... are right, then your God is the true God. On the other hand, if your trust is false and wrong, then you have not the true God.”



**MARTIN LUTHER**



- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)

*"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'  
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;  
there is none who does good."*

**WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT**



- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)

*"But my eyes are toward you, O God, my Lord;  
in you I seek refuge."*

**WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT**



- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)
- Self-love (Philippians 2:21)

*"For they all seek their own interests,  
not those of Jesus Christ."*

**WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT**



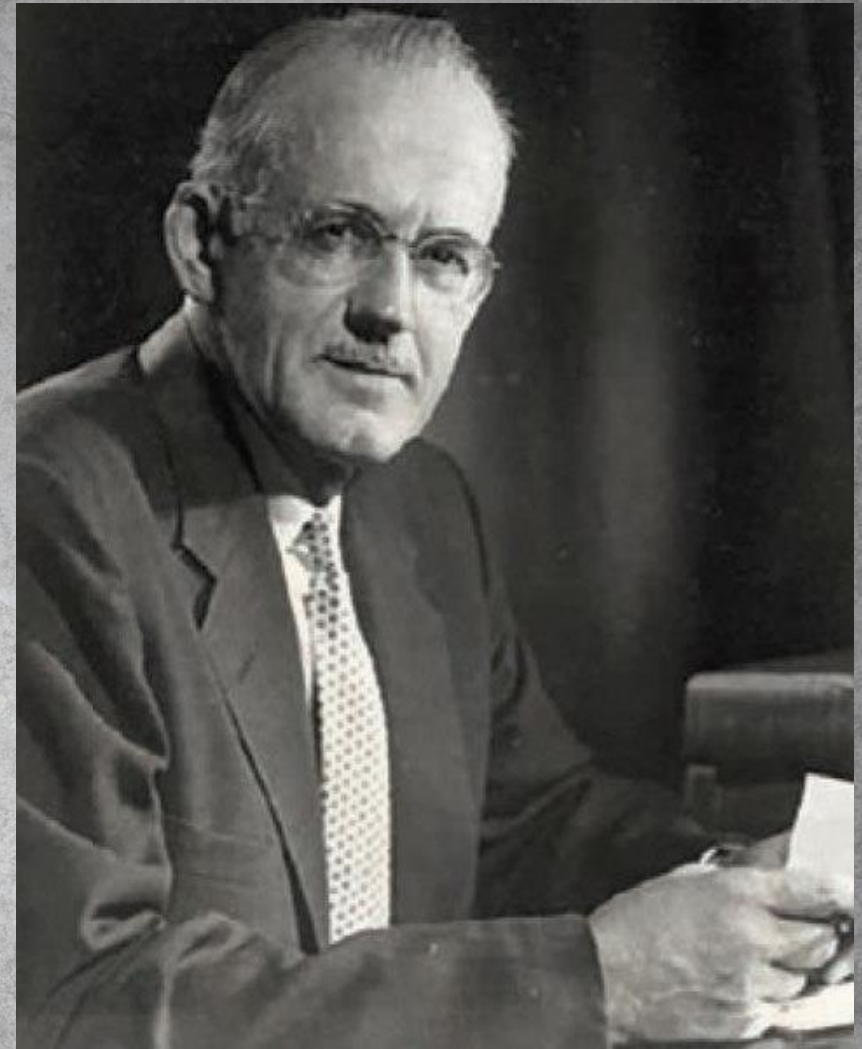
- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)
- Self-love (Philippians 2:21)
- Not giving up everything for God (Jeremiah 14:22)

*"Are there any among the false gods of the nations that can bring rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Are you not he, O LORD our God? We set our hope on you, for you do all these things."*

**WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT**



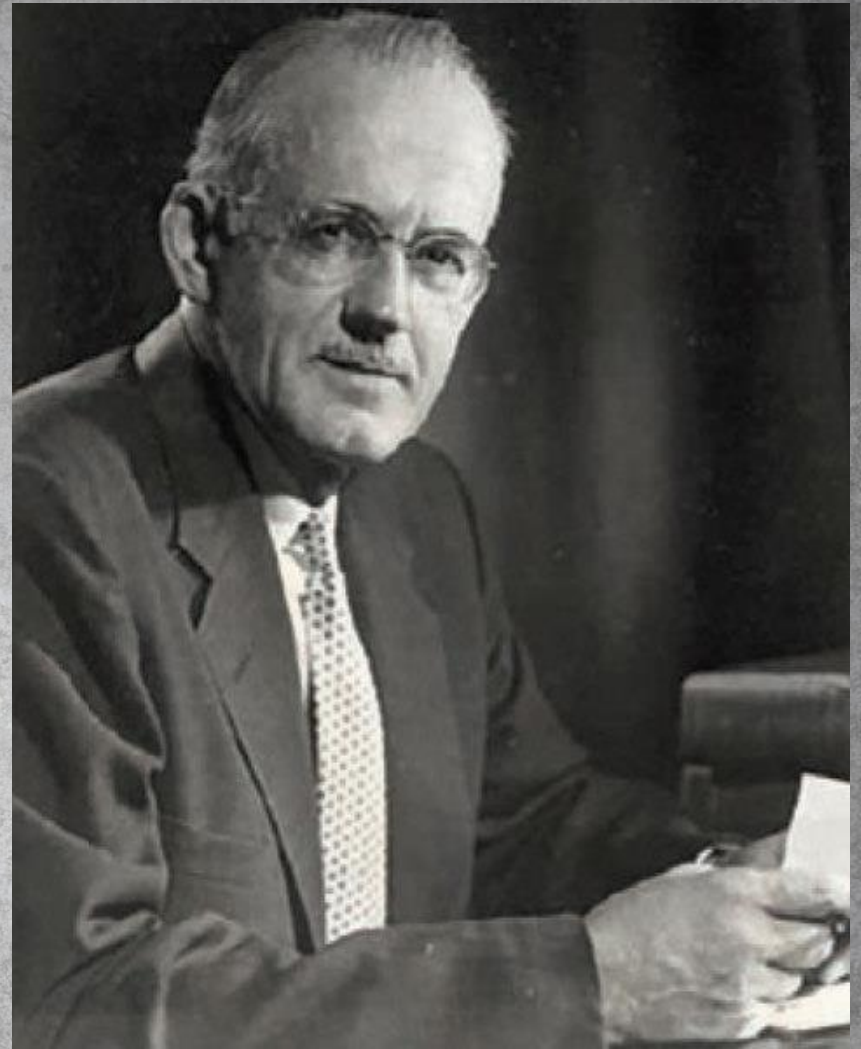
“He will not divide His offices. You cannot believe on a half-Christ. We take Him for what He is—the anointed Savior and Lord who is King of kings and Lord of all lords! He would not be Who He is if He saved us and called us and chose us without the ...”



**A.W. TOZER**



“... understanding that He  
can also guide and  
control our lives.”



**A.W. TOZER**



- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)
- Self-love (Philippians 2:21)
- Not giving up everything for God (Jeremiah 14:22)
- Too much tolerance of other religions (John 14:6)

*"I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through  
me."*

**WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT**



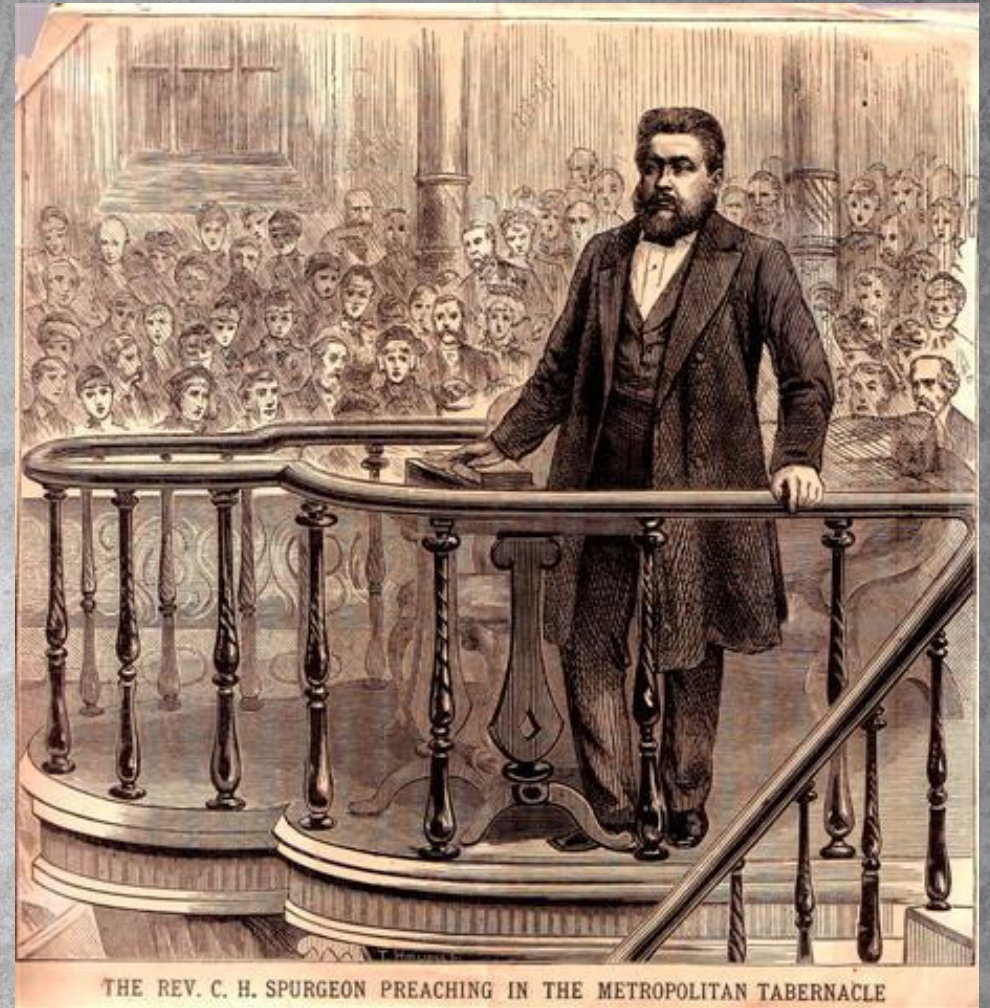
- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)
- Self-love (Philippians 2:21)
- Not giving up everything for God (Jeremiah 14:22)
- Too much tolerance of other religions (John 14:6)
- Not embracing Christ as Head of the church (Ephesians 5:23)

***WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT***



“The Church of God,  
in a very special manner,  
calls Jesus ‘our Lord,’  
for there is not, and there  
cannot be any head of  
the Church except the  
Lord Jesus Christ.

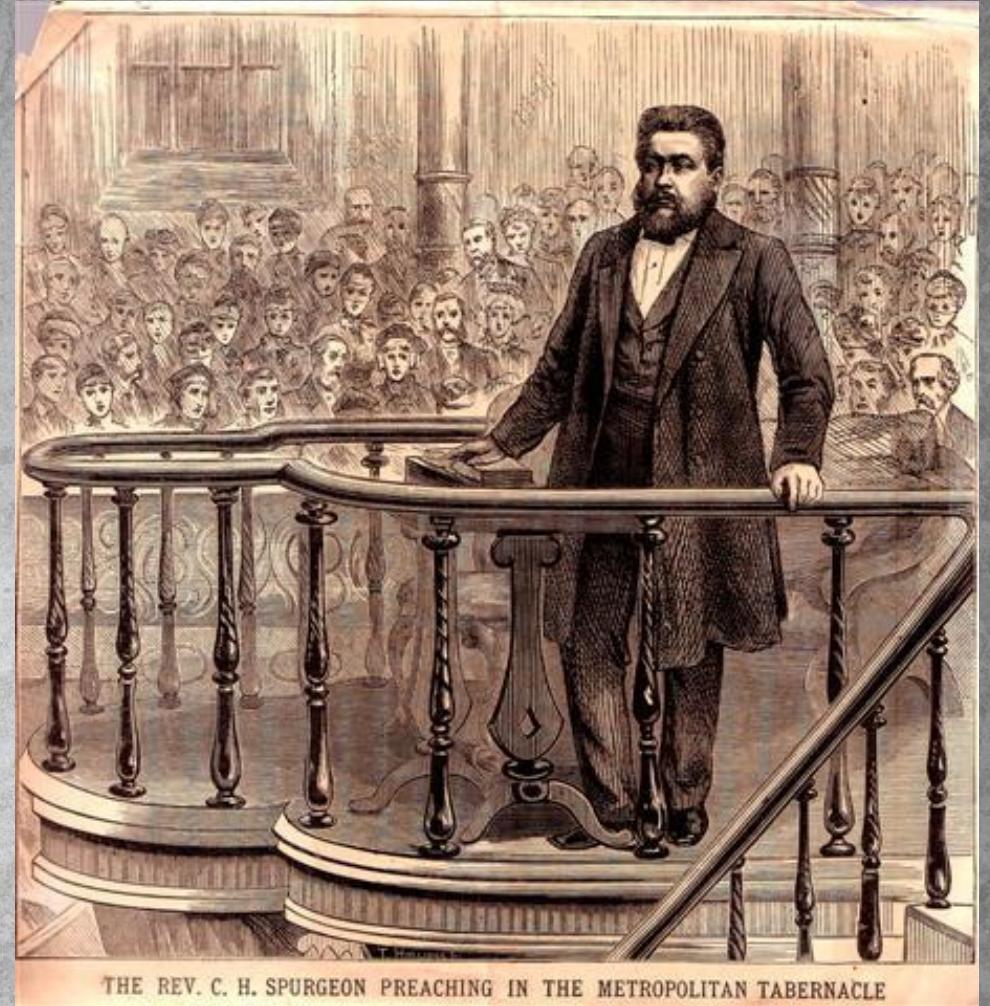
It is awful blasphemy for  
any man on earth to call  
himself Christ’s vicar and  
the head of the church,  
and it is a usurpation ...”



**CHARLES  
SPURGEON**



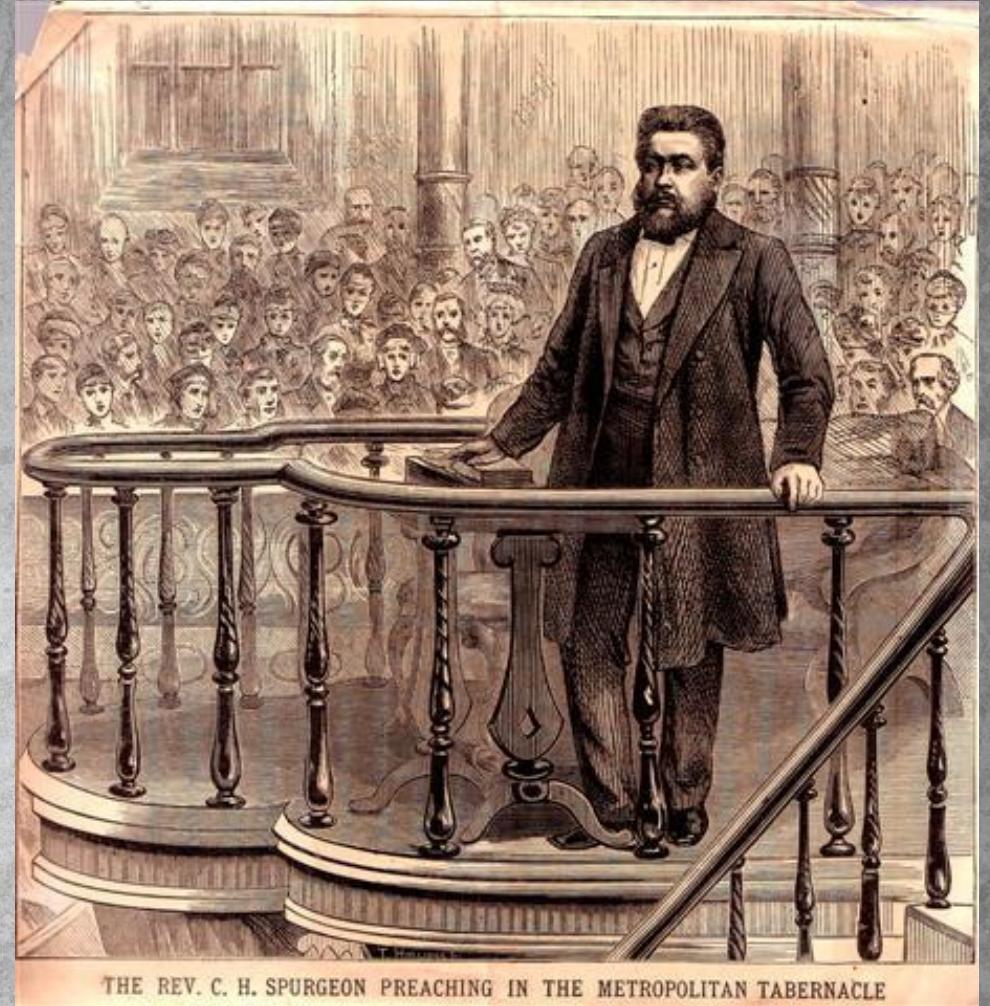
“... of the crown rights of King Jesus for any king or queen to be called the head of the church, for the true Church of Jesus Christ can have no head but Jesus Christ himself. I am thankful there is no head to the church of the church of which I am a member ...”



**CHARLES  
SPURGEON**



“... save Jesus Christ himself, nor dare I be a member of any church which would consent to any headship but his.”



**CHARLES  
SPURGEON**

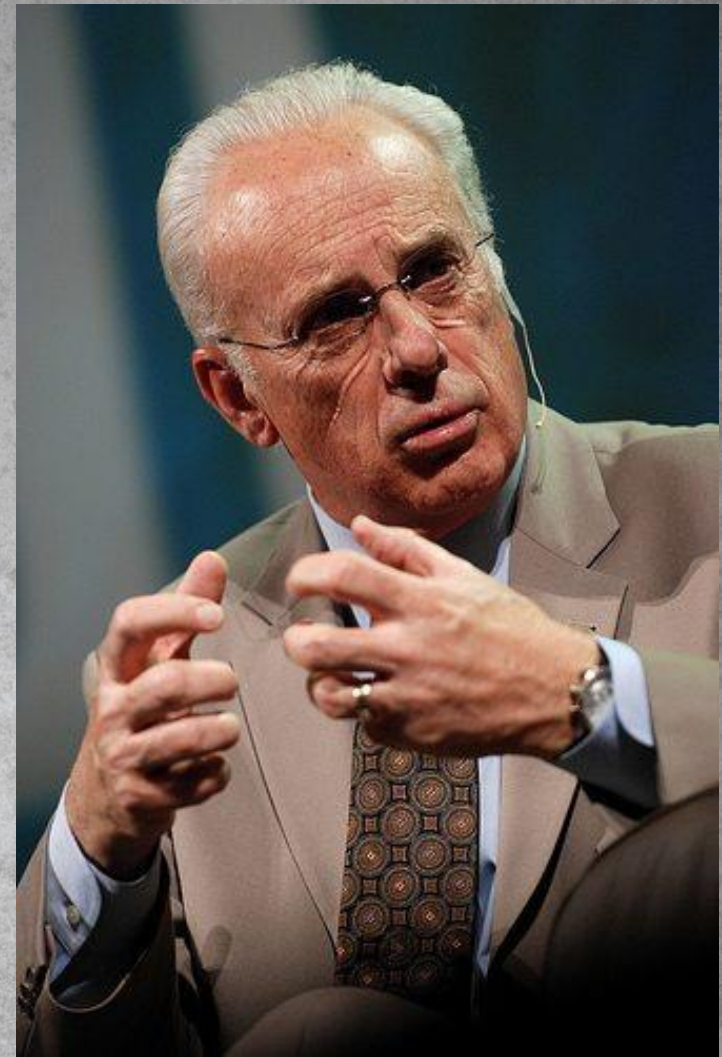


- Atheism (Psalm 14:1)
- Not trusting God (Psalm 141:8)
- Self-love (Philippians 2:21)
- Not giving up everything for God (Jeremiah 14:22)
- Too much tolerance of other religions (John 14:6)
- Not embracing Christ as Head of the church (Ephesians 5:23)
- Rejecting Christ for salvation

***WAYS WE BREAK THE  
FIRST COMMANDMENT***



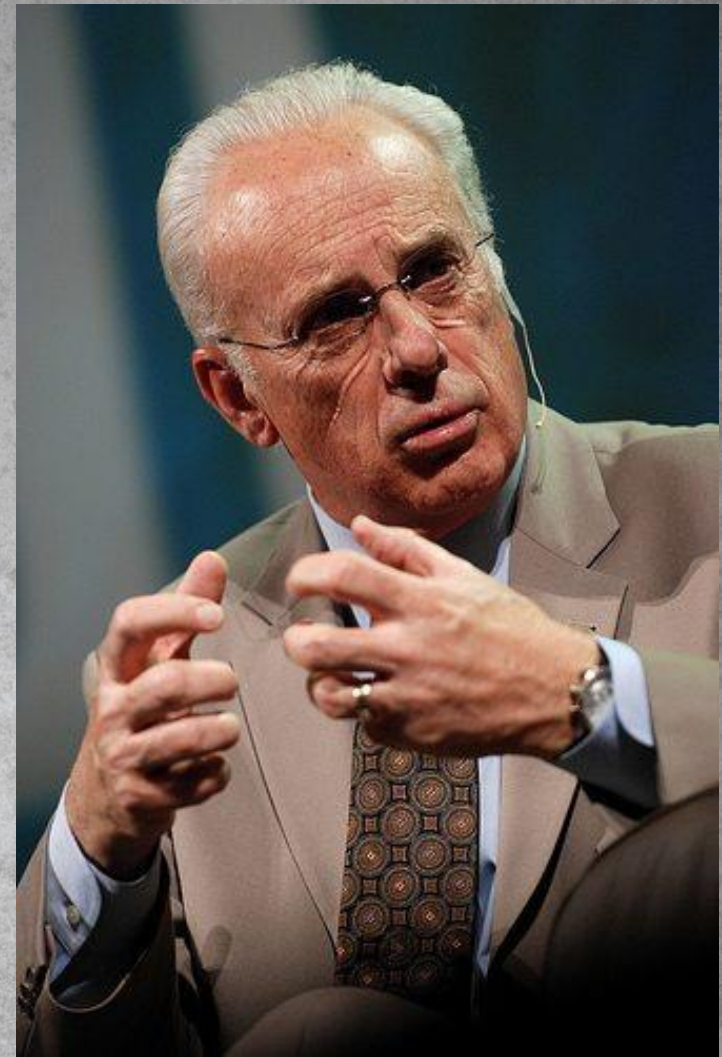
“Jesus is Lord (I Cor. 12:3). That is the single, central, foundational, and distinguishing article of Christianity. It is also the first essential confession of faith every true Christian must make. ... The belief that someone could be a true Christian while that person's whole ...”



**JOHN MACARTHUR**



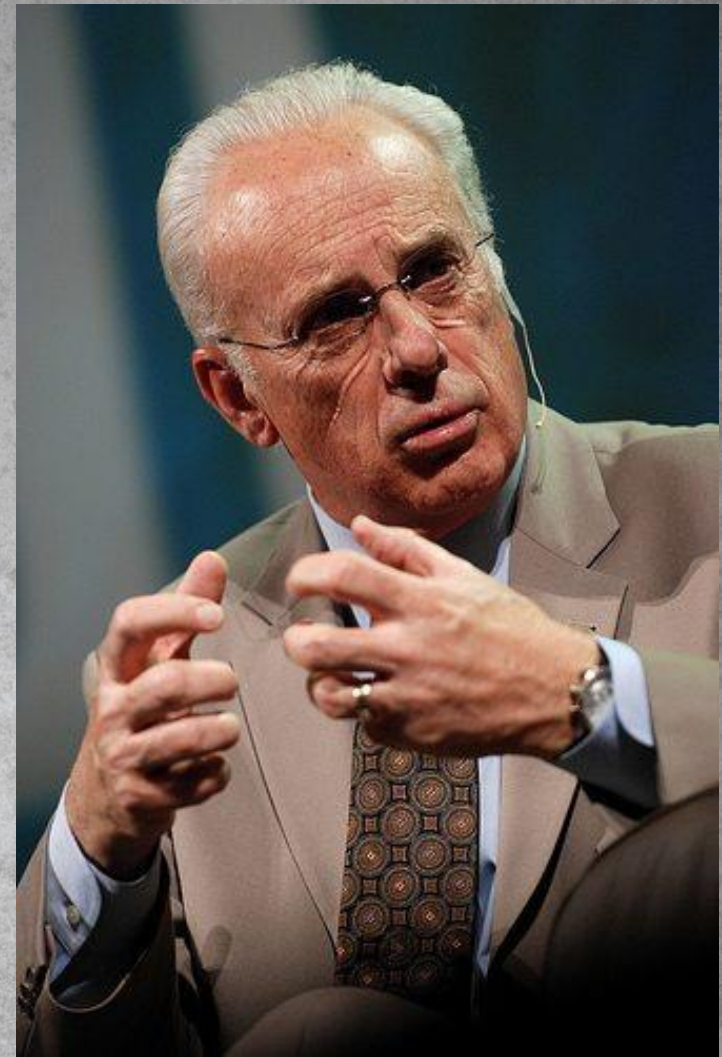
“... lifestyle, value system, speech, and attitude are marked by a stubborn refusal to surrender to Christ as Lord is a notion that shouldn't even need to be refuted. It is an idea you will never find in any credible volume of Christian doctrine or devotion from the time of the earliest church ...”



***JOHN MACARTHUR***



“...fathers through the era of the Protestant Reformation and for at least three and a half centuries beyond that. ... You cannot remove the lordship of Christ from the gospel message without undermining faith at its core. That is precisely what is happening in the church today.”



**JOHN MACARTHUR**