

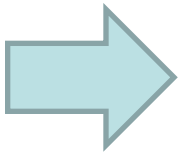
# Introduction to the Ten Commandments and The First Commandment

Excerpts taken from the book:  
*“Keeping the Faith”*  
Terry K. Dittmer





# Pastor Fisk



This is a clip from Jonathan Fisk's Presentation "I'm a Lifelong Lutheran, But..."



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqaMWTZSq-8>



# Do we Understand Right and Wrong?

- We do have some natural ability to tell right from wrong.
- However, sin makes our understanding of right and wrong **blurry**.
  - We don't make decisions correctly.
  - We compromise on the Law because it may be more convenient or advantageous to us.



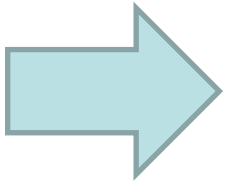
# Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What are the Ten Commandments?
  - The Ten Commandments are the Law of God
- How did God give His law?
  - When God created people, He wrote the Law on their hearts. Later he arranged the Law in Ten Commandments, wrote it on two tables of stone, and made it known through Moses.

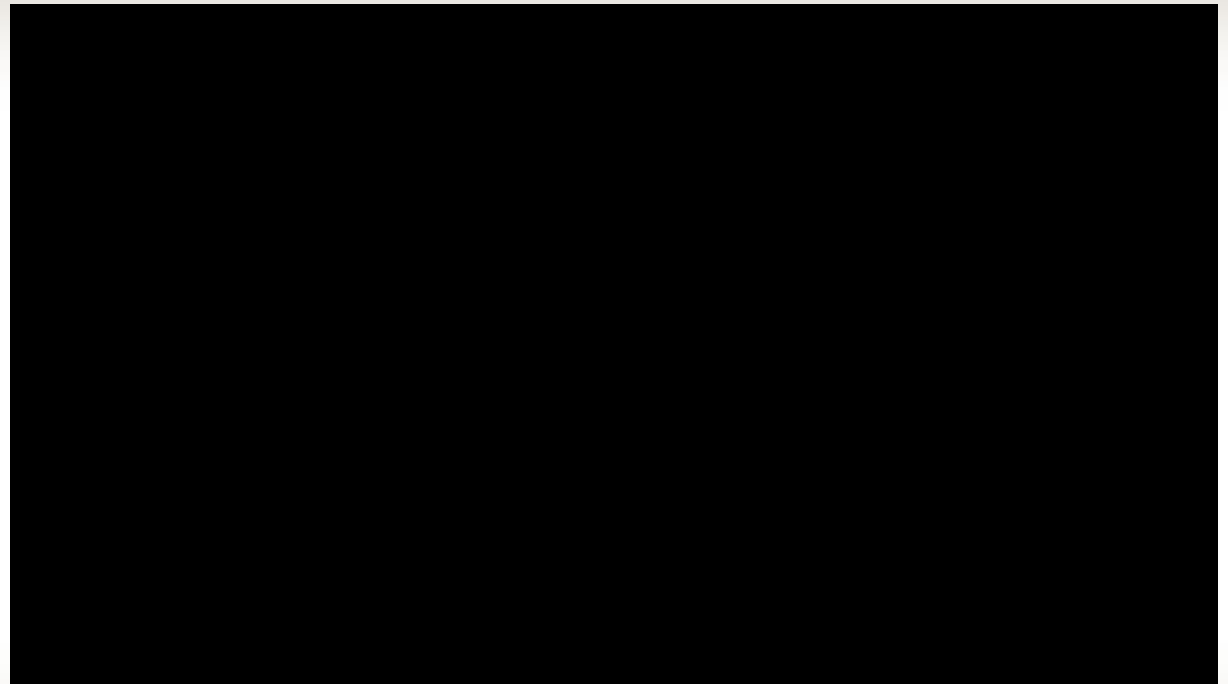


# Lutheran Satire

## Moral Law vs. Ceremonial Law



Watch “Horace Reads the Internet” on Lutheran Satire (lutheransatire.org)



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4r2m\\_cffRjl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4r2m_cffRjl)



# Three Kinds of Law

- There are three kinds of laws in the Old Testament: the moral law, which tells all people their duty toward God and other people; the ceremonial law, which regulated the religious practices in the Old Testament; and the political law, which was the state law of the Israelites.
- Only the moral law was written into the human heart.





# The Two Tables

- The Ten Commandments are God's design for living and the foundation of human society's best laws
- God's law can be divided into two tables. Both tables are about life and relationships
- The First Table, commandments 1-3, is about our love for and relationship with God.
- The Second Table, commandments 4-10, is about our love for and relationship with other people.
- The Summary of the Law is Love...





# Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What is the summary of commandments 1-3 (First Table)?
  - Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind” (Matt. 22:37; see Deut 6:5)
- What is the summary of commandments 4-10 (Second Table)?
  - “and the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt. 22:39; see Lev. 19:18)





# Uses of the Law

- First Use: Offers a model for how to form civil government.
- Second Use: Shows us our sin. Acts as a mirror.
- Third Use: Shows us how to act with our Christian freedom, which was won for us on the cross.



# The First Commandment

- **YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS.**
- What does this mean?
  - We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.
- There is one God! We are to worship God alone!
  - To worship other gods is idolatry.



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# All gods the same?



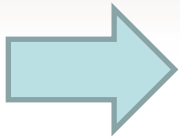


# Catechism – Questions and Answers

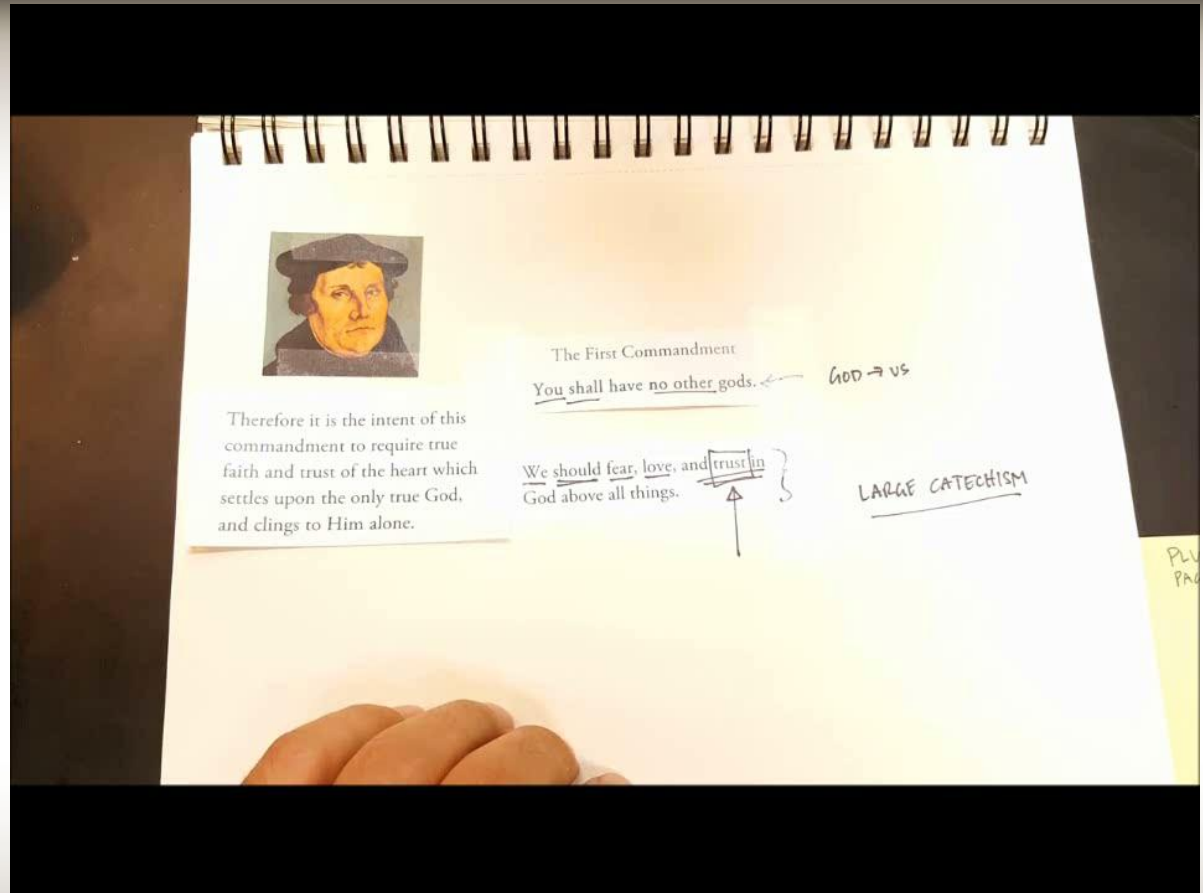
- Who is the only true God?
  - The only true God is the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one divine being (the Holy Trinity).
- What does God forbid in the First Commandment?
  - God forbids us to have other gods (idolatry).



# Pastor Wolfmueeller



Watch “Grappling: The First Commandment and Six Idols (The Ten Commandments)” on Worldview Everlasting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HYxKymyzpg>





# Idolatry – not just a



- Coarse Idolatry – believing in or worshiping a creature or thing as God.
  - Golden calf
  - Buddah
  - Movie stars, rock stars, athletes
  - Satan



# Idolatry – not just a



- Refined Idolatry – putting something else first in your life other than God.







• Maybe even yourself?



# Catechism – Questions and Answers

- When do people have other gods?
  - When they regard and worship any creature or thing as God
  - When they believe in a god who is not the triune God (see the Apostle's Creed)
  - When they fear, love, or trust in any person or thing as they should fear, love, and trust in God alone.



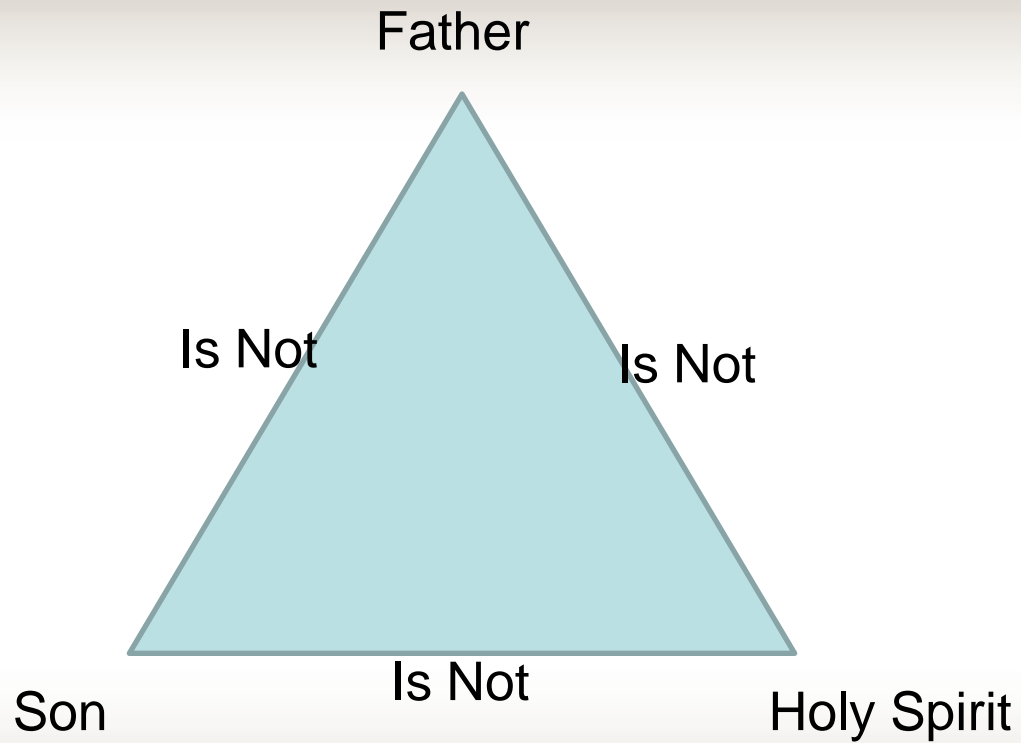


# Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What does God require of us in the First Commandment?
  - We fear God above all things when we revere Him alone as the highest being, honor Him with our lives, and avoid what displeases Him.
  - We love God above all things when we cling to Him alone as our God and gladly devote our lives to His service.
  - We trust in God above all things when we commit our lives completely to His keeping and rely on Him for help in every need.



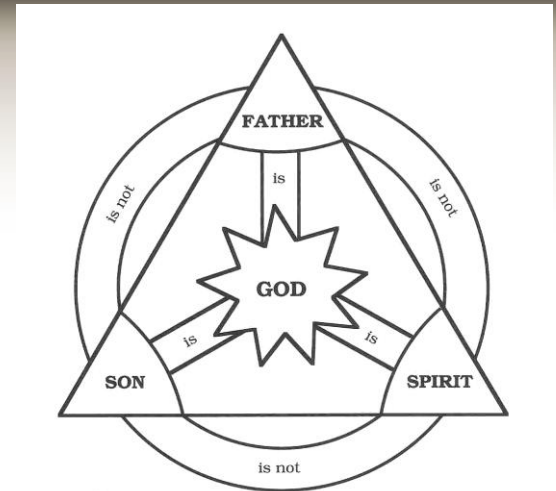
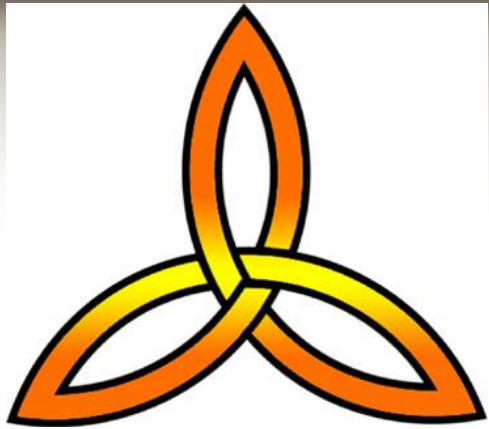
# The Triune God







# Trinity Symbols



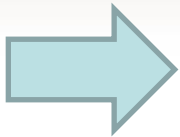


# How do we Respond to God?

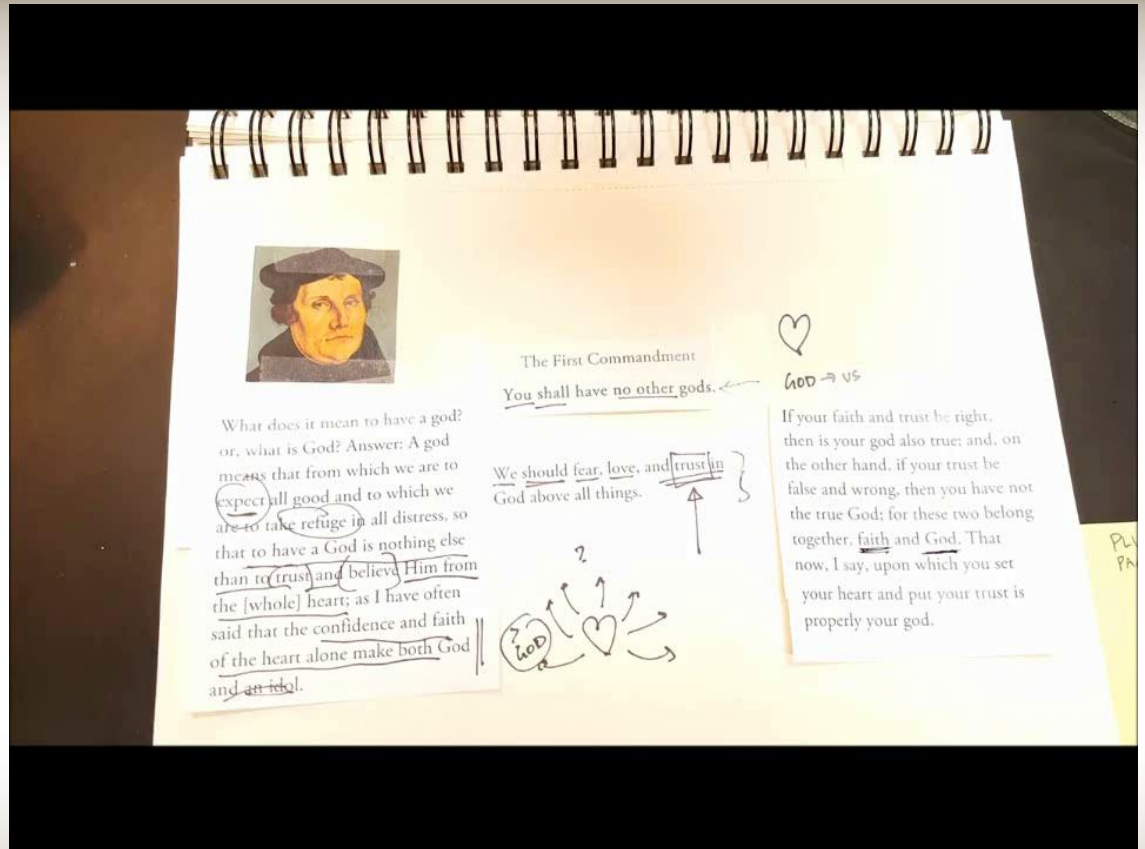
- *Fear.* We are not afraid of God. Instead, fear is respect, homage, standing in awe of God's majesty and holiness.
- *Love.* God is first in our lives. We love Him, cherish His Word, obey Him with grateful hearts.
- *Trust.* We believe God's promises. We know He will do what He says. We don't put our hope on false promises or gods.



# Wolfmueller Part 2



Watch “Grappling: The First Commandment and Six Idols (The Ten Commandments)” on Worldview Everlasting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-HYxKymyzpg>