

## Exodus: Redeemed for the Glory of God Chapters 25-31: How Yahweh is to be worshipped

1. Where are we in Redemptive History?
2. What does the word “Exodus” mean?
3. Why is the exodus such an important story to understand?
4. In what ways does this book point to Christ?
5. What has happened in Exodus so far?

### **Read excerpts from the attached sheet.**

6. What do these commands tell you about who God is? What do they tell you about how man is to approach God?
7. Why are these commands so incredibly detailed and specific? Was this really necessary?
8. Why are all of the commands concerning the ark and mercy seat so specific? What do they represent?
9. What is the point of all of the details concerning consecration of the priests?
10. How serious was God about holiness (see excerpt from Chapter 30)?
11. How serious was God about obedience to his commands concerning the Sabbath (see excerpt from Chapter 31)?
12. Why do we no longer keep these commands/ worship with these items?

***Approach my soul the mercy seat, where Jesus answers prayer;  
There humbly fall before His feet, for none can perish there.***

### **How does this apply today?**

*The acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation, or any other way not prescribed in the holy Scripture. (WCF 21.1)*

In describing the second commandment, the Heidelberg Catechism says: *That we in no wise represent God by images, nor worship him in any other way than he has commanded in his word.*

13. According to the Confessions above, what should worship be restricted to?
14. What is the name theologians use for this Biblical concept?

15. What parts of worship are prescribed in the Bible?
16. Does the Bible lay out each part of worship specifically?
17. What is the alternative to the regulative principle?
  - a. The Normative principle: whatever scripture does not forbid is permissible
18. How would a “normative” church look comparatively?
19. What was the most tightly regulated area of life in the OT?

*“Worship was more tightly regulated by Old Testament Law than were many other areas of life. This gives credibility to the belief that we should be more concerned with specific scriptural teachings regarding worship than we should about its statements on other areas of life such as car mechanics, grocery shopping, etc. Thus the motivation behind the regulative principle is correct.” (Richard Pratt)*

20. Many say that the regulative principle is an Old Covenant idea, and thus is fulfilled in Christ. Is there New Testament evidence for the regulative principle?

Matthew 15:9 “But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.”

Col 2:22-23 “the commandments and teachings of men...are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.”

Calvin calls this “will worship” He adds that “Every addition to his word especially in this matter, is a lie. Mere will worship is vanity.”

21. What if the worship is sincere? Does that make it acceptable?
22. What if worship is Biblical, but insincere?

**Isaiah 29:13** And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men..."

23. The Regulative Principle is a natural outflow of the doctrine of total depravity. How?
24. The Reformed view takes very seriously the notion of guarding the conscience and protecting Christian liberty. How does the regulative principle do this?