

First Things First

These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess,¹ so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.² Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you.³ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.^{4a} Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.⁵ Deuteronomy 6:1-5

"I am God, there is no other." Isaiah 4:22

For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2:5

Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things come and for whom we live. 1 Corinthians 8:6

First Things First

God is one.

He is alone.

He is enough.

He is all-sufficient.

He needs nothing.

He is infinitely and eternally perfect.

Heart, soul, and strength...

we must completely focus.

Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me."² So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.³ He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods,⁴

He said to Aaron, "What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?"²¹

"Do not be angry, my lord," Aaron answered. "You know how prone these people are to evil."²² They said to me, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him.'²³ So I told them, 'Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.' Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!"²⁴ Exodus 32: 2-4, 21-24

Rationalizing

To invent plausible explanations for acts, opinions, etc., in the attempt to deflect reality or scrutiny.

"Out Came This Calf!"

Family Matters Ministry at North Way

"Focusing families on what matters."

Love God, then do as you please.

St. Augustine