



- The thought of “improper worship” is unheard of today
- The issue is not what we do, or the quantity or the intensity of worship; it’s trust guided by knowledge
- Hosea shows that Israel rejected the biblical paradigm
- Isaiah 44:13 – 20
- It is absurd that humans could fashion a god!

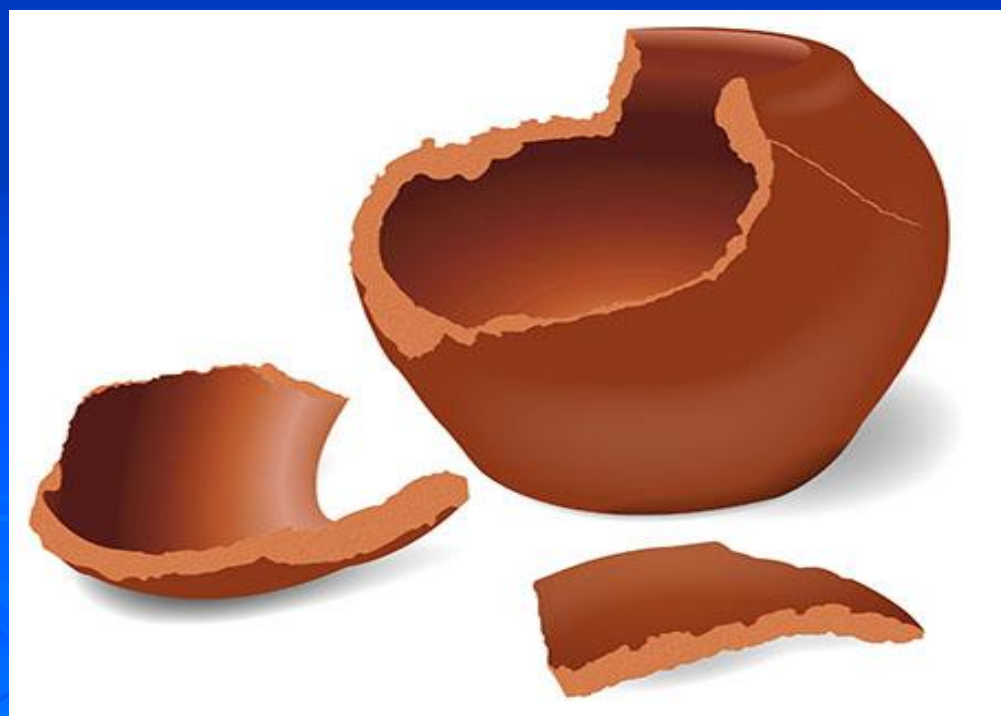
WHO CREATES WHO?



- Genesis 1:1 begins the premise that God creates man, man doesn't create gods
- Farmers used wind to help sow seed
- ***Ruach*** can speak of a foolish mindset
- ***Suphah*** = NOT a harmless whirlwind but rather a destructive wind storm

AN UNWANTED VESSEL

- A reversal of Redemption History
- Hebrews 6:4 – 6
- Jeremiah 22:28 – 30
- A broken vessel is an unwanted vessel
- ***Keli hemdah*** is the opposite: a desirable or costly possession
- “Israel has now become ...something ... to be thrown away”



“ For they have gone
up to Ashur...”

SPIRITUAL DELUSION

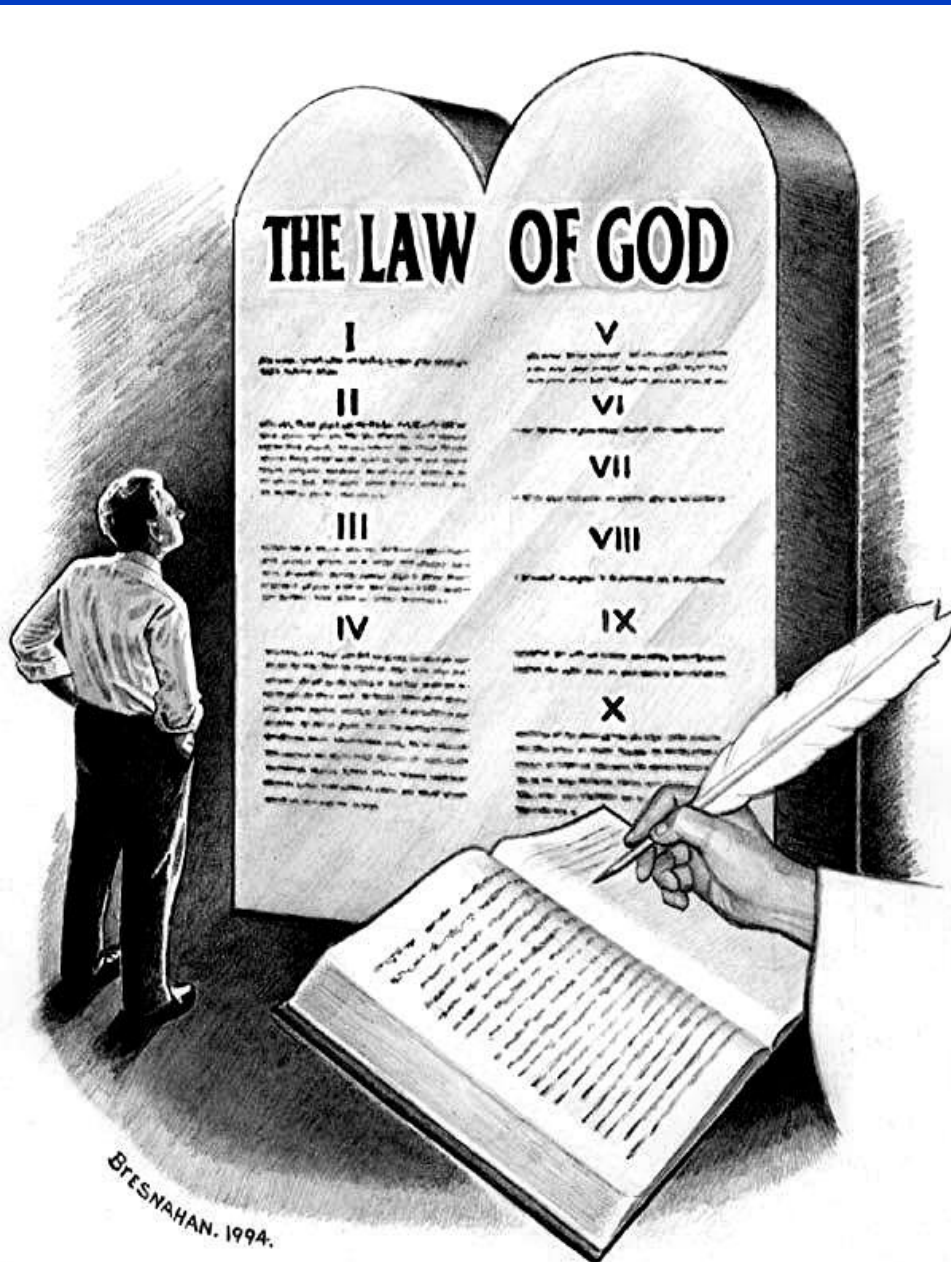
- Ashur is the god of Assyria
- Israel sought alliance with Assyria against Judah
- This hoped-for alliance with Assyria was a sell-out against Yehoveh
- Vs. 9, Israel is likened to a wild donkey
- **Ahabim** = love, in the sense of allegiance

THE PROBLEM OF ALTARS

- Vs. 10 God says Israel will diminish; means numerically
- Gathering up in the End Times means a harvest of Believers to eternal life, but also of non-Believers to eternal death
- Vs. 11 criticizes Israel's worship practices
- Irony: The Temple Altar was to atone for sins, but the self-built altars of Ephraim only incurred guilt



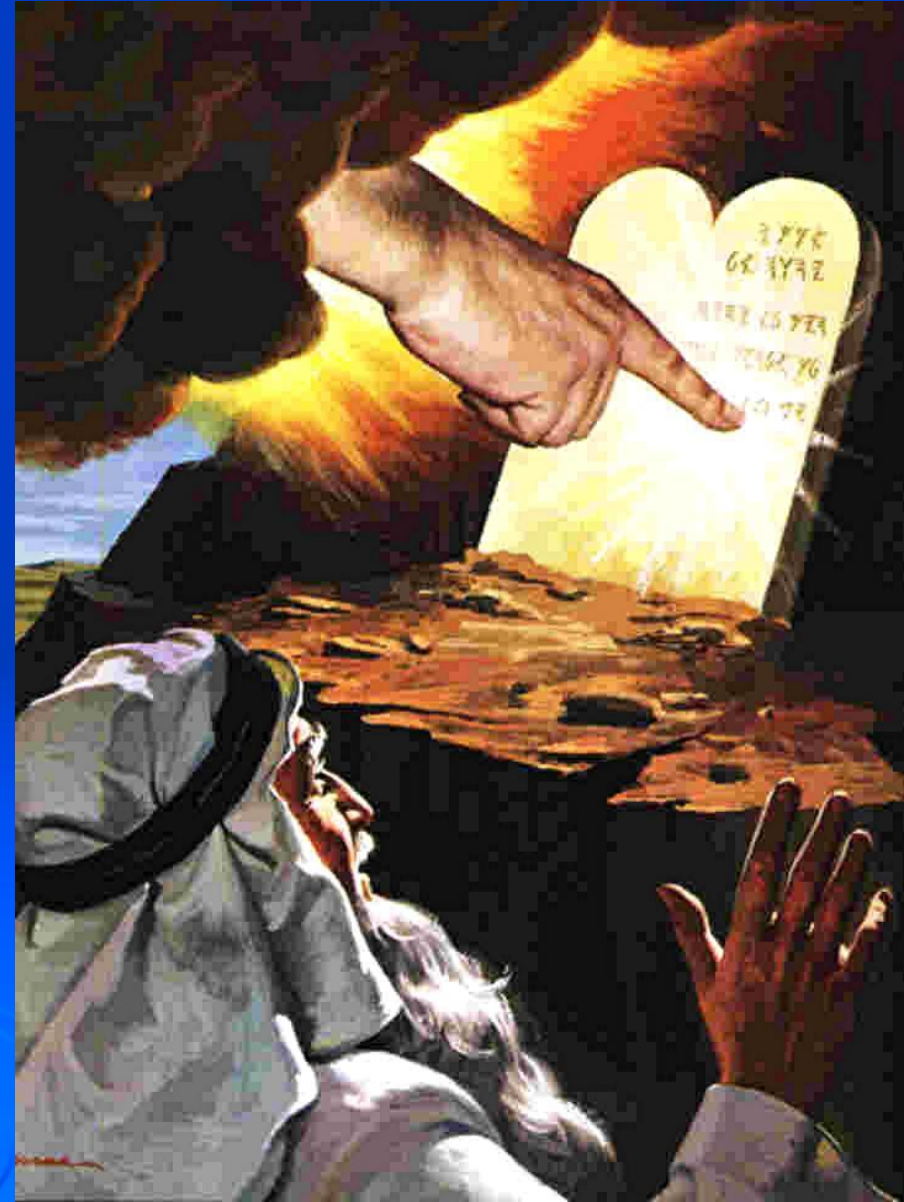
WHO DETERMINES WHAT IS EVIL ?



- Vs. 12 “I wrote...”
- The Law was given in writing, so Israel had it available
- If there is evil, there must be good
- For there to be a law, there must be a lawgiver
- Is the moral law objective or subjective?
- As followers of Jesus we agree that the moral law is objective

FROM OUTSIDE THE FINITE

- The Law must be given to humans in a way that we can apprehend
- The Lawgiver decides what is preference vs. moral
- The Law given in 2 steps:
 - 1) Upon the Garden of Eden, man was given an intrinsic sense that there is such a thing as morality
 - Romans 2:14 – 15
 - 2) A written moral law code was given: Law of Moses



IS THE LAW ABOLISHED?

- If the Law is abolished by Christ, then He also must have re-defined sin
- If the moral law code is now subjective, then sin no longer has a universal meaning or standard
- Paul seems schizophrenic on the Law
- Paul believed that followers of Christ ought to live by the Father's will and moral law





- E.P. Sanders says Paul is speaking on several different aspects of the role of the Law
- Matthew 5:17 – 20 ***“Don’t think I’ve come to abolish the Torah (the Law)...”***
- If one accepts the standard Church doctrine on the Law, then we have Paul and Christ disagreeing



- Paul was not anti-law
- Romans 3:29 – 31
- A paradigm is a model and pattern that explains the underlying spirit, while outlining the shape
- Similar to the US Constitution
- Ephraim had set aside God's written moral code