## SOVEREIGNTY

You shall not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything ... You shall not bow down to them ... I am a jealous God ... punishing the children for the sin of the fathers ... showing love to a thousand generations ... (Exodus 20:4-6)

**POSITION** of God – transcendent beyond the created universe

PRIORITY of God – Enjoyment and use of creation is appropriate. Worship and loyalty is not appropriate. He is jealous.

## **ANCIENT IDOLS/IMAGES**

- a) glorified <u>creation</u> rather than <u>Creator</u>
- b) used as an attempt to manipulate the Divine Power

## WHAT DO WE MAKE IDOLS OF ... TODAY?

ideas/perspectives institutions/programs works/deeds activities/substances "culture"/style pleasure/power

To those who pursue glory, honor, and immortality, those who persist in doing good, God will give eternal life. To those who pursue selfish ambition, refusing to obey the truth, and persist in doing wrong, there will come the fury of retribution. (Romans 2:7-8)

Everyone <u>pursues</u> something! Everyone <u>spends</u> the time, effort, and resources of their life upon something! If your love/loyalty has gone to a false god, it has been <u>wasted</u>. If your pursuit has been the worship of "self", it is <u>worthless</u>.

- The idols of the nations ...
   those who make them will be
   like them, and so will all who
   trust in them. (Psalm 135:18)
- They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves. (Jeremiah 2:5)

We pass the <u>consequences</u> of our <u>choice</u> on to generations of our descendants.

## SOVEREIGNTY