

The Ten Commandments

The Second Commandment: Idol Worship

Exodus 20:3

לֹא יִהְיֶה לְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים עַל פְּנֵי

“You shall not have the gods of others in My presence”

Maimonides Negative commandment #1

The first prohibition is that we are forbidden from entertaining the thought that there is any deity other than G-d.

The source of this prohibition is G-d's 'statement' (although he is so exalted that the term "speech" cannot really be applied to Him), "Do not have any other gods before me."

In the end of Tractate Makkos it is explained that this prohibition is included among the 613 commandments, as they state there, "613 commandments were given to Moshe at Sinai." We have explained this proof in the 1st of the Positive *Mitzvoh*.