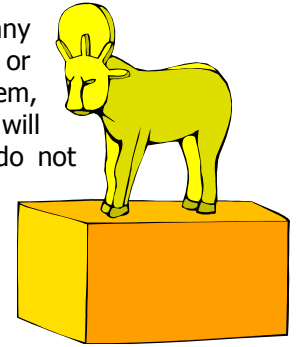


# Accept No Substitutes!

First United Pentecostal Church ~ Sunday, July 15, 2001

**Exodus 20:4-6 (NLT)** <sup>4</sup> Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. <sup>5</sup> You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god! I do not leave unpunished the sins of those who hate me, but I punish the children for the sins of their parents to the third and fourth generations. <sup>6</sup> But I lavish my love on those who love me and obey my commands, even for a thousand generations.



## WHAT IS AN IDOL?

- An idol is anything that takes the \_\_\_\_\_ off God and puts it on something else.
- When anything besides God is first in my life it is an idol – even if it is \_\_\_\_\_!
- In Bible times, there were three primary idols:
  - Baal, the god of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mammon, the god of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Molech, the god of \_\_\_\_\_
- The devil tries to portray God as the \_\_\_\_\_ when He is really the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - **James 1:17** *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*
  - **Deuteronomy 4:15-16 (GN)** *For your own good ... don't sin by making an idol in any form at all.*

## WHAT IDOLS DO TO ME

### 1. Idols will \_\_\_\_\_ me

- ***Jeremiah 10:14 (GN)*** *Those who make idols are disillusioned because the gods they make are false and lifeless.*
- They always promise more than they can \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Idols will \_\_\_\_\_ me

- ***1 Corinthians 12:2 (GN)*** *[Before you knew Christ] you were controlled by dead idols, who always led you astray.*
- There are **two inevitable effects** when you love something more than you love God:
  - a) It begins to \_\_\_\_\_ you.

The modern word for idol is "\_\_\_\_\_."

- b) It causes you to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Idols always make you lose your \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3. Idols will \_\_\_\_\_ me

- ***Psalms 115:8 (GN)*** *Those who make idols will become like them, and so will those who trust in them.*
- Human \_\_\_\_\_ are one of the biggest idols today.

Addictions are simply \_\_\_\_\_ answers to humanity's timeless problems.

## WHY WE WORSHIP IDOLS

1. We are attempting to limit God's \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We are attempting to reduce God's \_\_\_\_\_.

Many people change their theology because they can't justify their \_\_\_\_\_ any other way.

3. We are attempting to \_\_\_\_\_ God.

## WHY I WORSHIP GOD ALONE

1. It will \_\_\_\_\_ me.
  - ***Proverbs 37:4 (GN)*** *Seek your happiness in the Lord and He will give you your heart's desire.*
2. It will \_\_\_\_\_ me.
  - ***John 8:36 (GN)*** *If the Son sets you free, you will be really free.*
  - God will set you free from your PAST (\_\_\_\_\_), your PRESENT (\_\_\_\_\_) and your FUTURE (\_\_\_\_\_). That is REAL freedom!
3. It will \_\_\_\_\_ me.
  - ***2 Corinthians 3:18 (LB)*** *As the Spirit of the Lord works with us, we become more and more like Him.*

**God wants you to know Him as He really is!**

***Colossians 1:5 (NLT)*** *Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.*