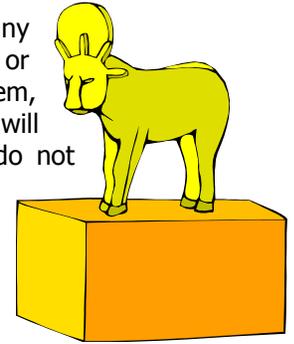


Accept No Substitutes!

First United Pentecostal Church ~ Sunday, July 15, 2001

Exodus 20:4-6 (NLT) ⁴ Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.*