



Our world worships gods after gods, whether it be nature, animals, money or even people; in other words their hearts are drawn to the creation as opposed to worshipping the Creator.

Here are God's commands on idolatry:

Leviticus 26:1, "You shall not make idols for yourselves."

Exodus 20:4-5, "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, any likeness of *anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God."

Isaiah 42:8, "I *am* the LORD, that *is* My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images."

Deuteronomy 6:14, "You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who *are* all around you."

As such, idolatry implies:

Romans 1:25, "They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator."

And as Jesus clearly said:

Luke 4:8, "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve."

Therefore:

Revelation 21:8, "Idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Do I realize that anything or anyone that I favor above God is idol worship?

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WHAT IS IDOLATRY?

“Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising.” Acts 17:29

Idolatry incorporates devotion to the flesh, sexual perversions, hero and celebrity worship, racism, in other words the pride of the heart that takes precedence to God in our life.

As such scripture says:

Romans 1:20-23, “Since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.”

As such true worshippers of God:

1 Peter 4:2, “Do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.”

Why?

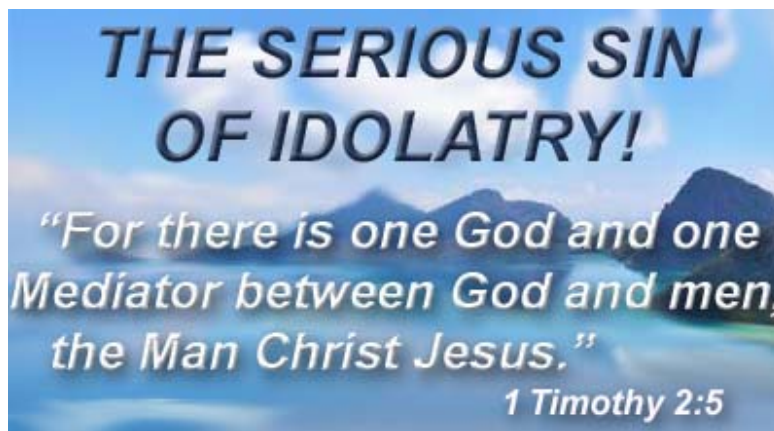
1 Peter 4:3, “You have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do, living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry.”

Therefore:

Colossians 3:5, “Put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”

Do I entertain idols in my life?

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Here are clear facts about God and the serious sin of idolatry:

Isaiah 44:6, “Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: ‘I *am* the First and I *am* the Last; besides Me *there is* no God.”

Exodus 20:3, 5, “You shall have no other gods before Me.” ⁵ “You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God.”

As such:

Colossians 1:16, “By Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”

Deuteronomy 4:35, “To you it was shown, that you might know that the LORD Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him.”

What’s more?

1 Corinthians 8:6, “There is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live.”

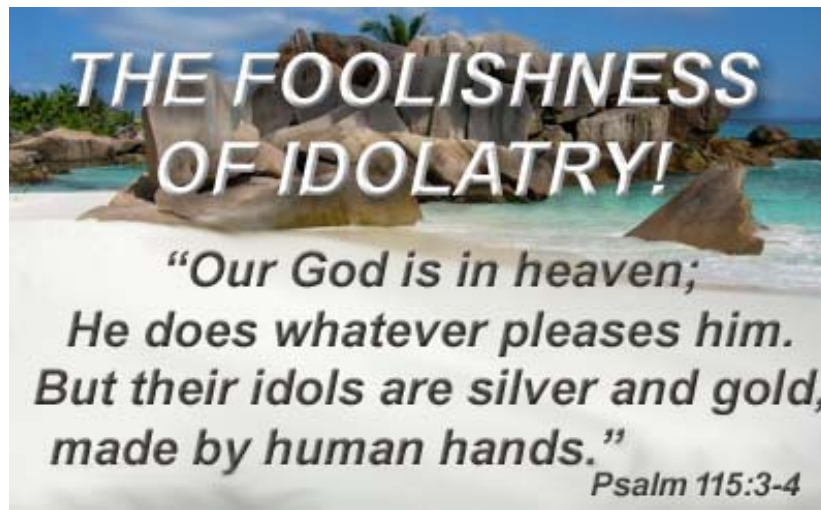
As such Jesus added:

Matthew 6:24, “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other.”

Therefore:

Jonah 2:8, “Those who worship false gods turn their backs on all of God’s mercies.”

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Why is idolatry so foolish when considering the Majesty of God?

Romans 1:20-24, “Since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves.”

As such:

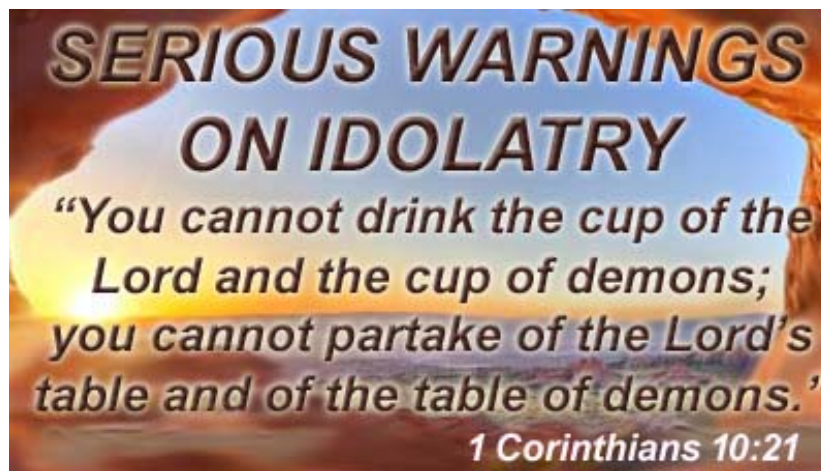
Matthew 15:8-9, “These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.”

Proverbs 15:21, “Folly *is* joy to *him* who is destitute of discernment, but a man of understanding walks uprightly.”

Therefore:

1 Corinthians 6:9-10, “Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

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How does the Word of God describe what God reserves for idolaters? Judges 10:13-14, "You have forsaken Me and served other gods. Therefore I will deliver you no more. "Go and cry out to the gods which you have chosen; let them deliver you in your time of distress."

Colossians 2:18, "Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial or the worship of angels, saying they have had visions about these things. Their sinful minds have made them proud."

As such:

Ephesians 5:5, "For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God."

Revelation 21:8, "Idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Therefore:

Ezekiel 14:6, "Thus says the Lord GOD: "Repent, turn away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations."

2 Timothy 1:13, "Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 51:10, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Why?

John 4:24, "God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

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