

A Living Hope: Defending the Faith Without Being Defensive

How Not to Be An Idolater

1 Peter 4:3–4

The Lord's Day Morning

September 6, 2020

“The human heart is a perpetual idol factory...”

–John Calvin, Institutes, I.11.8

Peter offers a list of vices that represent the kinds of things that these believers used to do before they knew Christ. Three of them have sexual overtones (sensuality, passions, orgies) and two of them are about indulgence in alcohol (drunken, drinking parties), but all of them are related to “lawless idolatry.” Everyone worships something or someone: either we worship false gods (idols) or the one, true, and living God.

1. _____ idolatry: Identify any created thing which you attempt to put in God’s place and trust in for your present and eternal happiness.
2. _____ idolatry: With your mouth and from your heart, declare your allegiance to Christ alone.
3. _____ idolatry: Motivated by love for Christ, plan and execute strategies for destroying idolatry in your heart.