

gods at war

Fighting Idolatry in our Hearts

June 23, 2019

Is *Idolatry* an Issue?

False gods are the issue beneath your surface problems. It could be about cheating for more money, or giving up a future for love, or risking everything for the addiction one cannot stop, but the issue is *idolatry*. Underneath our struggles is false worship. What do you pursue at all costs and make sacrifices to obtain? The answer will reveal your false gods.

Is *Idolatry* an Issue?

Anything at all can become an idol, especially a good thing, once it becomes a substitute for God in our lives.

“No other gods”

In Exodus 20:2-3 the first of the 10 Commandments says, 2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 You shall have no other gods before me.”

“Before me” is not God being first before our other worshipful pursuits. It means “in my presence” and informs us that all other god activities are cancelled! He is our One and Only Lord God!

The Heart of the Issue

Proverbs 4:23 says, “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”

Jesus and the Heart

Jesus said about the Religious Leaders, 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship is a farce...' (Matthew 15:8-9)

Jesus and the Heart

Jesus said, “Anything you eat passes through the stomach and then goes into the sewer. 18 But the words you speak come from the heart—that’s what defiles you. 19 For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. 20 These are what defile you. (Matthew 15:17-20)

Walk Upstream

Our heart is the battleground of the gods because everything flows from our hearts! So, will you walk upstream and survey the condition of your heart, and commit to worshipping God alone, as we progress through this series together?

Heart Check

1. What disappoints you?
2. What do you complain about the most?
3. Where do you make financial sacrifices?
4. Where do you go for emotional rescue?
5. What are your dreams?