

(ABC's that threaten Christian living)

# Idolatry And False Worship

By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1986, (Rev. 99)

## **Timeless Truths** (Why should I avoid Idolatry and false worship?)

1. God is very jealous over worship, (Ex. 20:3-5; Deut. 5:8; 9:12; 1 Cor. 10:22).
2. Worship of anything other than God reveals spiritual corruption, (Deut. 4:16-19; Ex. 31:7).
3. Idols are not real, and do not deserve our worship, (1 Cor. 8:4-5; 10:19; Ps. 115:4-6; 135:15-17).
4. Though idols are not real, they allow for demonic activity, (1 Cor. 10:19-20).
5. Anyone involved in setting up idolatry is detestable to God, (Deut. 27:15).
6. God has brought judgment against those who practice idolatry, (Acts 7:39-43).
7. There are blessings for those not involved in idolatry, (Ps. 24:4).
8. Idolatry is likened to stubbornness, (1 Sam. 15:23) and covetousness, (Col. 3:5).

## **Practical Prescriptions** (How can I control idolatry and false worship?)

### ***1. Refuse involvement in any idolatrous system!***

- A. "Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry," (Col. 3:5).
- B. "...Flee from idolatry," (1 Cor. 10:14).
- C. "...Keep yourselves from idols," (1 John 5:21).
- D. "...the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God; and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons," (1 Cor. 10:20).

### ***2. Respond to God's word obediently!***

- A "...You had sinned against the Lord your God, and had made for yourselves a molded calf! You had turned aside quickly from the way which the Lord had commanded you," (Deut. 9:16; 4:23).
- B. "Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord..." (1 Sam. 15:23).

### ***3. Remember all that God has done for you!***

"They made a calf in Horeb and worshipped the molded image... They forgot God their savior, who had done great things in Egypt, wondrous works in the land of Ham, awesome things by the Red Sea..." (Ps. 106: 19-22; Deut. 4:23).

### ***4. Realize the emptiness and lies associated with idolatry!***

"What profit is the graven image that its maker should carve it: the molten image, a teacher of lies, that the maker of its mold should trust in it, to make mute idols? (Hab. 2:18).