

Outline

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Romans 1:18-25.

¹⁸ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For 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.

²¹ 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. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. Romans 1:18-25

I. We All Worship False Gods.

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.'" Matthew 7:21-23

"worship and serve." (vs. 25)

II. The False God's We Worship.

"Sinful desires" (vs. 24), *"images"* (vs. 23), and *"created things."* (vs. 25)

The Ten Commandments: Service Exodus 20:3; Romans 1:18-25

4/11/2025

"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, 'This is the way; walk in it.'" Isaiah 30:21

"Walk by faith and not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

How To Discover What Our Idols Are?

- List your fears. What do you fear losing? At the root of those fears will be your idol.
- Complete this sentence: *"I'll obey if..."* What is the "if" at the end of that sentence.
- *"I've been following God and what has it gotten me? I've been thinking about chucking the whole thing because it's just not working out for me!"* What has God not provided for you that you think he ought to have had?
- What is non-negotiable and what is?
- When you suffer or when troubles come what do you cling to to get you through it?

III. Where False Gods Go to Die.

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator..." (vs. 25) This habit of ours is called: *"futile"* and *"foolish."* (vs. 21) The word *"foolish"* means *"impractical."*

*"They say to things of wood, 'You are my father,'
and to idols of stone, 'You gave birth to me.'
Those people won't look at me;
they have turned their backs to me.
But when they get into trouble, they say,
'Come and save us!'
Where are the idols you made for yourselves?
Let them come and save you
when you are in trouble!"* Jeremiah 2:27-28

"I'll never leave us as orphans!" John 14:18 *"I'll never leave you or forsake you!"* Hebrews 13:5

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4/11/2025

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator. (vs. 25)

Steps To Getting Rid of a False God

a) Name it!

b) Unmask it.

c) Believe in Jesus as your Savior.

"Have no other gods beside me," Exodus 20:3 "...for I am a jealous God!" (vs. 5)

Where Idols Go to Die