

Put Away Your Idols O Israel

What is Idolatry?

Idolatry is the Hebrew word terâphîym H8655 (ter-aw-feme') which means family idol, particularly an image. Occurs: 15x in KJV.

What is an Idol?

Idol in the Hebrew is 'ëlîl H457 (el-eel') which means good for nothing or vanity; specifically, an image of no value. Occurs: 20x in KJV.

Idolatry was in the Earth with the forefathers of Abram (Abraham) prior to the giving of Torah (the Law).

During the days of Noah (Abraham's great-grandfather), polytheism (the belief and worship of more than one God) reigned in the Earth. Noah was alive during the life of Abram as an adult. It is plausible for Abram to have been taught about YeHoVaH by Noah.

Josh. 24:2 Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.

Remember the Idols Rachel confiscated from the house of Laban in Genesis 31.

Why is Idolatry wrong?

Ex. 20:1-3 And God spake all these words, saying,
² I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
³ Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

This was the first Commandment that YeHoVaH spoke to the Children of Israel. This was the Command for Israel to **show respect** for YeHoVaH as God and **YeHoVaH as God only**.

Ex. 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

- I ask, who decided that Cesare Borgia was to become the image of Messiah?
- How do we know what angels look like in order to create the crown halo with wings image?
- Images of God cause division amongst Believers.

Ex 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

What does Torah say regarding Idolatry?

Ex 34:14 For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name *is* Jealous, *is* a jealous God:

Lev. 19:4 Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods: I *am* the LORD your God.

Lev. 26:1 Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up *any* image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I *am* the LORD your God.

Lev. 26:30 And I will destroy your high places, and cut down your images, and cast your carcases upon the carcases of your idols, and my soul shall abhor you.

Deut. 27:15 Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the Lord, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and putteth it in a secret place. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen.

Deut. 29:17 And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which *were* among them:)

Three Types of Idolatry Found in Scripture

- Graven Images
- Idols of the Heart
- Idols of Man

Graven Images

Deut. 4:15-16 Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; for ye saw no manner of similitude on the day *that* the LORD spake unto you in Horeb out of the midst of the fire:

¹⁶ Lest ye corrupt *yourselves*, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female,

Jesus' peace charms, photos of YeHoVaH, and religious statutes (ex. Virgin Mary, Buddha) are examples of graven images made in the likeness of male or female.

Deut. 4:17-18 The likeness of any beast that *is* on the earth, the likeness of any winged fowl that flieth in the air,

¹⁸ The likeness of any thing that creepeth on the ground, the likeness of any fish that *is* in the waters beneath the earth:

The golden calf in Exodus 32 is a direct example of an image made in the likeness of a beast of the earth.

Deut 4:19 And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, *even* all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations under the whole heaven.

Witchcraft, sorcery, and astrology are forms of Idolatry.

Idols of the Heart

Ezek. 14:1-3 Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me.

² And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying,

³ Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?

(NLT) Ezek. 14:3 Son of man, these leaders have set up idols in their hearts, They have embraced things that lead them to sin. Why should I let them ask me for anything?

Ezek. 14:4-5 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols;

⁵ That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols.

(NLT) Ezek 14:4-5 Tell them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: The people of Israel have set up idols in their hearts and fallen into sin, and then they go to a prophet asking for a message. So I, the Lord, will give them the kind of answer their great idolatry deserves.

⁵ I will do this to capture the minds and hearts of all my people who have turned from me to worship their detestable idols.'

People idolize themselves, prestige, power, and popularity. The love of money, being the root of evil, has become the main idol sought after by Believers and non-Believers. Material possessions have hijacked the hearts of YeHoVaH's Creation.

Matt. 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Idols of Men

Man is often glorified for his inventions, ideas, achievements, and accomplishments. The primary source of all the actions praised by man is YeHoVaH. Nothing belongs to us as human beings. Everything we are and have belongs to YeHoVaH.

Ps. 24:1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Acts 14:8-18 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

⁹ the same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

¹⁰ said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

¹¹ And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

¹² And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

In Roman Mythology, Jupiter was known as their chief god and Mercury was a divine messenger and god of travel and commerce.

¹³ Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

¹⁴ *Which* when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard *of*, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

¹⁵ and saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

¹⁶ who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

¹⁷ Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

¹⁸ And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

Idolatry Today

A. Idolatry Within Christianity/Church

The Christian Church, that obviously rejects the Law, has resulted to the practice of Idolatry. Roman Catholicism set worship upon Yeshua instead of YeHoVaH and engaged in the worship of Mary (the mother of Yeshua). Yeshua never said to pray to Him; hence the Lord's Prayer.

Pass by your local Christian church and you will see graven images set out front, graven images on church windows, and graven images within.

Church leaders have become idols to many. For example, people who call themselves Believers accept the instructions of their church leaders over YeHoVaH.

B. Idolatry in Entertainment

Idolatry through entertainment is the biggest influence of Idolatry today. Children are exposed to idols in the form of role models and childhood heroes. Sadly, many adults never grow out of this from childhood.

Social Media is where the majority of people spend their idle time. Social Media is engaged in more than the study of Scripture. We as a people have become more concerned with keeping up with each other instead of keeping THE COMMANDMENTS. No person should be followed.

The model is Yeshua!

Much of our entertainment is influenced by Satanic rituals or symbols that were once subliminally programed into art. Now, they are blatantly skewed through various media outlets.

C. Material Obsession is Idolatry

YeHoVaH is not against His Creation having material possessions that are desired. However, YeHoVaH and His Kingdom are FIRST and sole priority.

Matt. 6:31-32 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

³² (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

Material Possessions are temporary and the things that we should seek as Believers are eternal. What good is it to obtain many material possessions, only to leave them for others to enjoy or mismanage when you are no longer here?

Matt. 6:19-20 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

²⁰ But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

Eccl. 2:11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

Conclusion

- Why Israel should put away its Idols
- Call to Repent

Why Israel should put away its Idols

YeHoVaH made it clear to Israel in His Instructions to refrain from Idolatry. To simply put it:

Idolaters do not inherit the Kingdom.

Rev. 22:14-15 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

¹⁵ For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Call to Repentance

(Repeat after me)

Father in Heaven, please forgive me for any past Idolatry or placing anything before You or Your Will. I ask for the Holy Spirit to keep me mindful always of Your Laws and Commandments towards Idolatry.