

**Title: Idolatry – The Forgotten Sin**

**Passage:** Exodus 20:2-4; Colossians 3:5

**Main Idea:** Idolatry substitutes something else for God; therefore believers must continually hold that “God is enough for me in every situation”.

**I. "What is the definition of idolatry?"**

The definition of idolatry is “the worship of idols or excessive devotion to, or reverence for some person or thing or activity.” An idol is anything that replaces the one, true God.

**II. What does the bible say about Idolatry?**

- In the garden the first enemy of God was idolatry (Gen 3).
- The first two commands of the 10 commandments are against Idolatry. (Ex. 20)
- For his own beloved people - The cycle of Sin, Judgment, Punishment & Restoration in Judges & Kings was a continual cycle due to - Idolatry
- Nebuchadnezzar acted like an animal for 7 years because of his idolatry (Daniel 4)
- The whole book of Micah is a condemnation of idols and graven images in Israel where Pastor’s and Prophets were rebuked as well.
- The New Testament also stresses the exceeding sinfulness of idolatry (1 Cor 6:9-10 ; Gal 5:20 ; Eph 5:5 ; Col 3:5; 1 Peter 4:3 ;Rev 21:8)

**III. How does Idolatry work?**

**1. Idolatry Inserts a Substitute for the Substance**

- A. Idolatry replaces God.
  - B. Idolatry suggests - God isn’t enough!
- Answer: God is enough for me in every situation.

**2. Idols demand sacrifices to keep them happy.**

- A. Acts 19:23-27 (Idolatry was a lucrative business!)
- B. idols will *always* make you sacrifice for them.
- C. The more you sacrifice for an idol, the more it will demand.

**IV. How do I win the battle of Idolatry in my life?**

1. The gospel overcomes our idolatry through a relationship
2. The gospel overcomes idolatry not by removing idols but by replacing them.

**Conclusion / Application – What Idols do you have in your life?**

**Recommended Books:**

- **Gods at War Author: Kyle Idleman**
- **Snakes in the Temple: David Orton**
- **No gods but God: Denise Newkirk**