

FLEE FROM IDOLATRY

1 Corinthians 10:14 "So then, my beloved ones, flee from idolatry."

Upon reading the title to this devotion, you may have asked yourself, why a devotion on this topic. There is no way I would ever worship an idol. I know God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the only true Triune God. You know He has said, "I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. (Isaiah 45:5)

When you pay your bills, do you worry whether there will be enough in the bank to cover the checks you write and the direct debits withdrawn from your account? When you go to the doctor, do you worry what he/she might find through the tests that are done? As you age, do you worry who is going to take care of you when you can no longer take care of yourself? Do you worry about your children? Grandchildren?

Why bring up the issue of worry when the topic is idolatry? The answer is quite simple. When you worry God is no longer your god. This is a strong sentence, but the truth is your worry means you no longer have faith in, trust and rely upon God for all you need. Worry means you have replaced God with yourself or your money or whatever it is that you believe will answer your concern.

Idolatry is a far more common sin than you can imagine. You do not have to create an idol statue and place it in some prominent place in your home to have an idol. In fact, idolatry is a sin of the heart. Does not the Bible say, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21) Jesus could just as well have said, "In whatever you place your faith and trust there is where your heart is."

Unfortunately, you create idols, most times without any awareness at all. That is why, as a Christian you confess to God the sins you know you have committed and the ones you do not know. Jesus paid the price for all of them. What this means is He redeemed you, He restored you into God's family whereby your faith in idols is replaced with faith in the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: O Lord, I confess that I too have worshipped idols knowingly or not. I am sorry for this sin and for all my sins. I repent of them and ask Your forgiveness through faith in Your Son, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

We all believe in one true God, Who created earth and heaven.
The Father, who to us in love Has the right of children given.
He in soul and body feeds us; All we need His hand provides us;
Through all snares and perils leads us, Watching that no harm betide us.
He cares for us by day and night; All things are governed by His might.

We all believe in Jesus Christ, His own Son, our Lord, possessing
An equal God-head, throne, and might, Source of ev'ry grace and blessing;
Born of Mary virgin mother, By the power of the Spirit,
Word made flesh our elder brother; That the lost might life inherit,
Was crucified for all our sin And raised by God to life again.

We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who, in highest heaven dwelling
With God the Father and the Son, Comforts us beyond all telling;
Who the Church, His own creation, Keeps in unity of spirit.
Here forgiveness and salvation Daily come through Jesus' merit.
All flesh shall rise, and we shall be In bliss with God eternally.
Amen, amen. Amen.

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