



Lesson 17: Keep Yourself From Idols Pt. 2 / Text: 1 John 5:18-21

Message Focus: Providing a clear picture of the One, true God.

Read 1 John 5:18-21

Intro: The Holy Spirit inspired John to close this precious little epistle with a very clear, direct admonition, namely to KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS. This study is designed to help you think about the non Christians in your life and how you might be able to help them turn from idols to serve the living God.

An IDOL is anything or anyone that is worshipped as God, or instead of God. It can be a person, image, career, hobby, etc. It is anything/anyone that hinders you from giving your full devotion and worship to God.

TRUE WORSHIP is defined in scripture as “reverent devotion and allegiance pledged to God”. The English word worship actually comes from an old English word worthship, which denotes the worthiness of the one receiving devotion.

1. There are a number of reasons why people do not worship the God of creation. The first being that although God created man with an innate (*inborn*) desire to worship, man was also created with a free will. That is, he/she is free to worship whatever or whomever he chooses to. With this in mind, how would you respond to the person who says, “I don’t worship anything or anyone”?

A.

2. One of the clearest reasons why people do not worship the one and only true God is because they lack knowledge about Him. It is not that God has chosen to keep us in the dark regarding His nature, characteristics or activities. The problem is that many have simply ignored or dismissed the Bible as an authority on this subject. People believe all kinds of things about God that are not supported by the scriptures (*Bible*). Name one.

A.

Defining and describing the One and Only True God

For the rest of this lesson, we will consider some of the more common faulty beliefs about God that people have and provide a scriptural response for each one.

3. God is dependent and limited, just like us. How is this refuted in Psalm 50:10-12 & Acts 17:24-25?

A.

4. God loves us so much He would never judge us or condemn us. How is this refuted in John 2:13-16, Isaiah 13:11, & 1 Peter 4:17?

A.

5. God is absent from the affairs of men. How is this refuted in Jeremiah 23:23-24 & Psalm 32:8?

A.

6. God is like an unloving parent. How is this refuted in Matthew 3:17 & 6:25-26?

A.

7. What would you say to an audience made up of your non-Christian family and friends if you had a chance to describe who God is and why He is worthy of their worship? (*Read Jeremiah 9:23-24 before writing down your thoughts.*)

A.

Who should be on your list of people to try and share your testimony with? Who should be first?