Counterfeit Gods—Defeating the Idols that Battle for Our Hearts

“Idolatry Is The Issue”

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1 John 5:21

10.14.18

A. Can you guess what is the number one problem in the Bible? 

B. If we start scratching at whatever struggle we are dealing with, we will eventually find that behind the struggle is an __________, a __________ god we are worshiping.

C. So idolatry isn’t _____ issue, but is ____ issue.

D. Paul wrote that ______ is not just bad behavior, but that it is _______ (Col. 3:5).

E. God said about the elders of Israel: “These men have set up ______ in their ________.” (Ezek. 14:3).

F. Idols are spiritual ___________ that lead to terrible ________, both in Tolkein’s novel The Lord of the Rings, and in real life.

G. One of the most important things we will learn throughout this series is that ___________ can become an idol.

H. If anything becomes more fundamental than ______ to our happiness, meaning in life, and identity, then it is an idol.

I. Categories that idols fall into:
   1. There are ______________ idols.
   2. There are _____________ idols.
   3. There are _____________ idols.

J. The Bible uses three basic metaphors to describe how people relate to idols:
   1. The __________ metaphor - God is our __________.
   2. The __________ metaphor - God is our __________.
   3. The __________ metaphor - God is our __________.

K. What is the first of the 10 Commandments? “You shall have no other gods _______ me.” (Ex. 20:1-3)

L. What is the second of the 10 Commandments? Do not _______ idols to ____________. (Ex. 20:4-6)

M. The Psalmist said of the Israelites’ golden calf experience: “They ______ the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats _______. Not a good trade!” (Ps. 106:19-20).

N. How do we identify what are our idols?
   1. What __________ you?
   2. What do you ___________ about the most?
   3. Where do you make ___________ sacrifices?
   4. What __________ you?
   5. What are your ___________?
   6. What __________ you?
   7. Where is your _____________?

O. There is only one true God who is worthy of our __________ and through whom we find forgiveness and __________ of all our needs and longings.

P. The __________ is the battleground for the spiritual war that is taking place.
   1. That’s why we must ______ our hearts. (Prov. 4:23)
   2. That’s why we must _______ God with all our heart, soul, and mind. (Mt. 22:37)