

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a pond surrounded by trees with vibrant orange, red, and yellow foliage. In the foreground, there are tall green reeds and fallen leaves scattered on the water's surface. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

# *Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

***“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28***

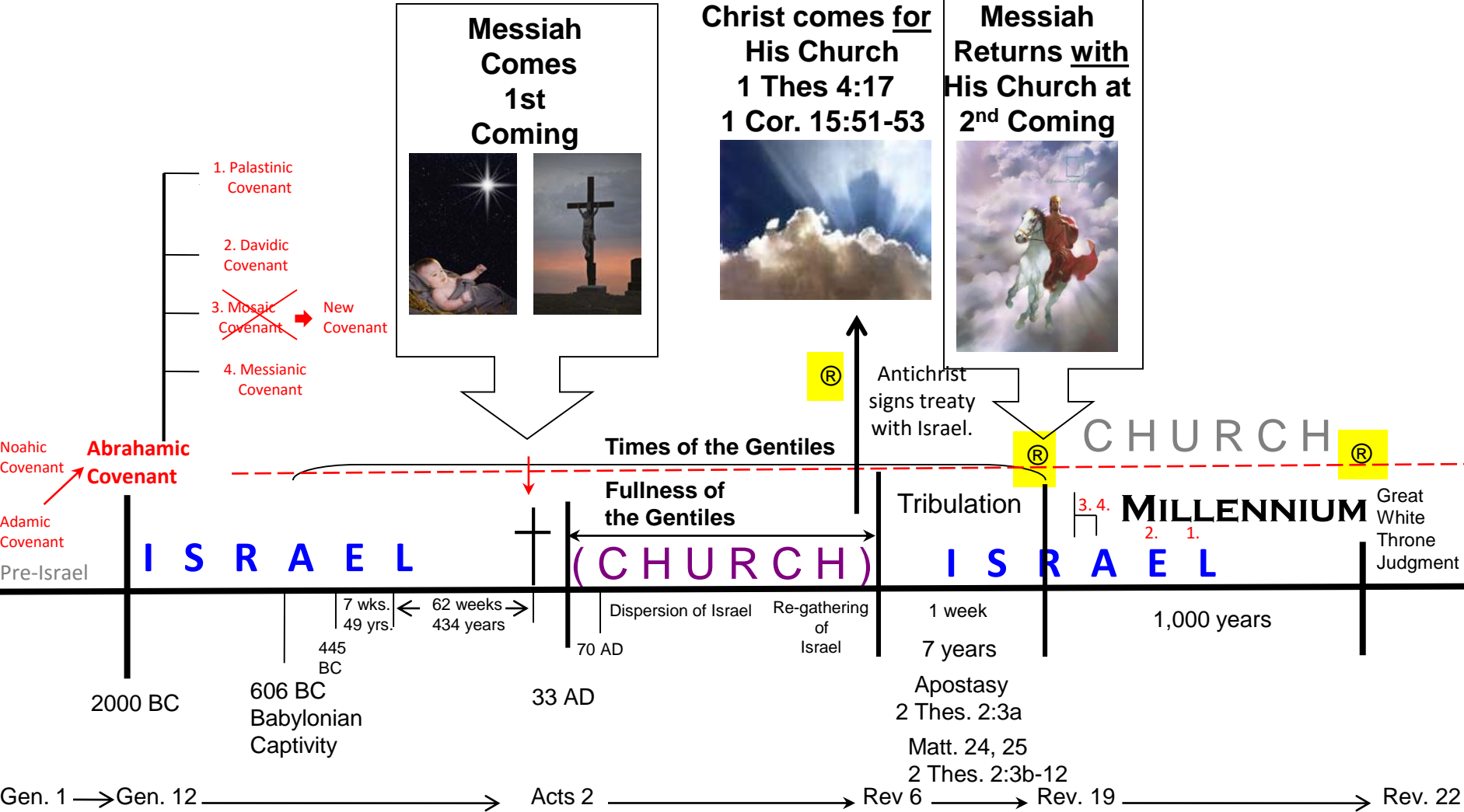
# ***“The 7 Trumpet Judgments”***

## ***Part 6***

***Rev. 9:20, 21***

Dec. 3, 2017

# Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events



® = Resurrection



## **Rev 9:20-21**

20 **The rest of mankind**, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;

21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

***“the rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues”***

- These are the unbelievers that survive the plagues.
- There are others who survive the plagues that will repent and will become believers.

## Rev 9:20-21

20 The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, **did not repent** of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk;

21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

## ***“did not repent”***

- People do not repent because their hearts have become hardened by repeatedly rejecting the convicting work of the Holy Spirit.
- People do not repent because they want to follow another course.
- Repentance therefore is always a matter of the will.

### **John 3:19-21**

19 "This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.

20 "For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

- People do not repent because they think they need something more than God's Word –

## **Luke 16:27-31**

- 27 "And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house —
- 28 for I have five brothers — in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'
- 29 "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'
- 30 "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!'
- 31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"



## Amos 4:6-13

- 6 "But I gave you also cleanness of teeth in all your cities and lack of bread in all your places, **Yet you have not returned to Me,**" declares the Lord.
- 7 "Furthermore, I withheld the rain from you while there were still three months until harvest. Then I would send rain on one city. And on another city I would not send rain; One part would be rained on, while the part not rained on would dry up.
- 8 "So two or three cities would stagger to another city to drink water, But would not be satisfied; **Yet you have not returned to Me,**" declares the Lord.
- 9 "I smote you with scorching wind and mildew; And the caterpillar was devouring Your many gardens and vineyards, fig trees and olive trees; **Yet you have not returned to Me,**" declares the Lord.
- 10 "I sent a plague among you after the manner of Egypt; I slew your young men by the sword along with your captured horses, And I made the stench of your camp rise up in your nostrils; **Yet you have not returned to Me,**" declares the Lord.
- 11 "I overthrew you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand snatched from a blaze; **Yet you have not returned to Me,**" declares the Lord.
- 12 "Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel."
- 13 For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind, and declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness, and treads on the high places of the earth, The Lord God of hosts is His name.

## **God would use:**

- ✓ famine (vs. 6),
- ✓ drought (vss. 7-8),
- ✓ crop failure (v. 9),
- ✓ plagues (v. 10),
- ✓ military defeat (v. 10)
- ✓ burning devastation (v. 11)

The consequences of not repenting are two-fold, though they are tied together:

1. Demonism
2. Gross idolatry.

## Rev 9:20-21

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21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

# ***“of the works of their hands,”***

## **Acts 7:41**

41 "At that time they made a calf and brought a sacrifice to the idol, and were rejoicing in the works of their hands.

## **Acts 19:23-27**

23 About that time there occurred no small disturbance concerning the Way.

24 For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, was bringing no little business to the craftsmen;

25 these he gathered together with the workmen of similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that our prosperity depends upon this business.

26 "You see and hear that not only in Ephesus, but in almost all of Asia, this Paul has persuaded and turned away a considerable number of people, saying that gods made with hands are no gods at all.

27 "Not only is there danger that this trade of ours fall into disrepute, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis be regarded as worthless and that she whom all of Asia and the world worship will even be dethroned from her magnificence."

- **The *works* of men’s hands include the very gods they bow down to.**
- **Men worship that which they themselves made rather than the God who made them.**

## Rev 9:20-21

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21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.



***“so as not to worship demons,”***

**Note:** Worshipping demons is put first. That is the explanation for this lack of repentance. They have believed a lie, and therefore they are rendered finally unable to repent. It is because they have begun, unknowingly perhaps to worship demons.

**God is:**

- holy, just, love, goodness, mercy and grace, etc.

**Demons are:**

- unholy, unjust, hateful, cruel, murderous, destructive, immoral.

***When men reject God and do not repent, the only thing left is the world of Satan.***

***You either repent and turn to God from your sin or you continue in deception with a hardened heart.***

## **Lev 17:7**

7 They shall no longer sacrifice their sacrifices to the goat demons with which they play the harlot.

## **Deut 32:16-17**

16 "They made Him jealous with strange gods;  
With abominations they provoked Him to anger.

17 "They sacrificed to demons who were not God,  
To gods whom they have not known,

## **1 Cor 10:19-22**

19 What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

"At that future point in world history, idolatry, mysticism, spiritism, satanism, and all other forms of false religion will become pandemic, as demons lead people into more wicked and vicious behavior."

**- John MacArthur**

“That people are today being prepared for an irruption of demons, however, seems very probable. The plethora of movies, television programs, and books with demonic themes, along with the latter-day mushroom growth of occult religions and practices, are all surely conditioning men to a widespread belief in Satan and his demons. Furthermore, none of this is driving men to refuge in Christ, as one might at first suppose it would.”

## ***Four levels of demonic activity:***

- (1) Demon influence and temptation:** (1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 2:2; 6:12-13; 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Tim. 2:26).
- (2) Demon Control:** (2 Cor. 4:4; John 12:31; 16:11; 1 John 2:15-17; Mark 4:14-19).
- (3) Demon Harassment or Oppression:** (2 Corinthians 12:7).
- (4) Demon Possession:** Demon possession is the condition where a demon (or demons) actually take up residence within the body of a person and not only controls the person, but uses their central nervous system and vocal cords. (Matthew 9:32-33; 12:22; 17:18; Mark 5:1-20; 7:26-30; Luke 4:33-36; Luke 22:3; Acts 16:16-18).

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# Idolatry

## Ex 20:3-5

3 "You shall have no other gods before Me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth.

5 "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God,

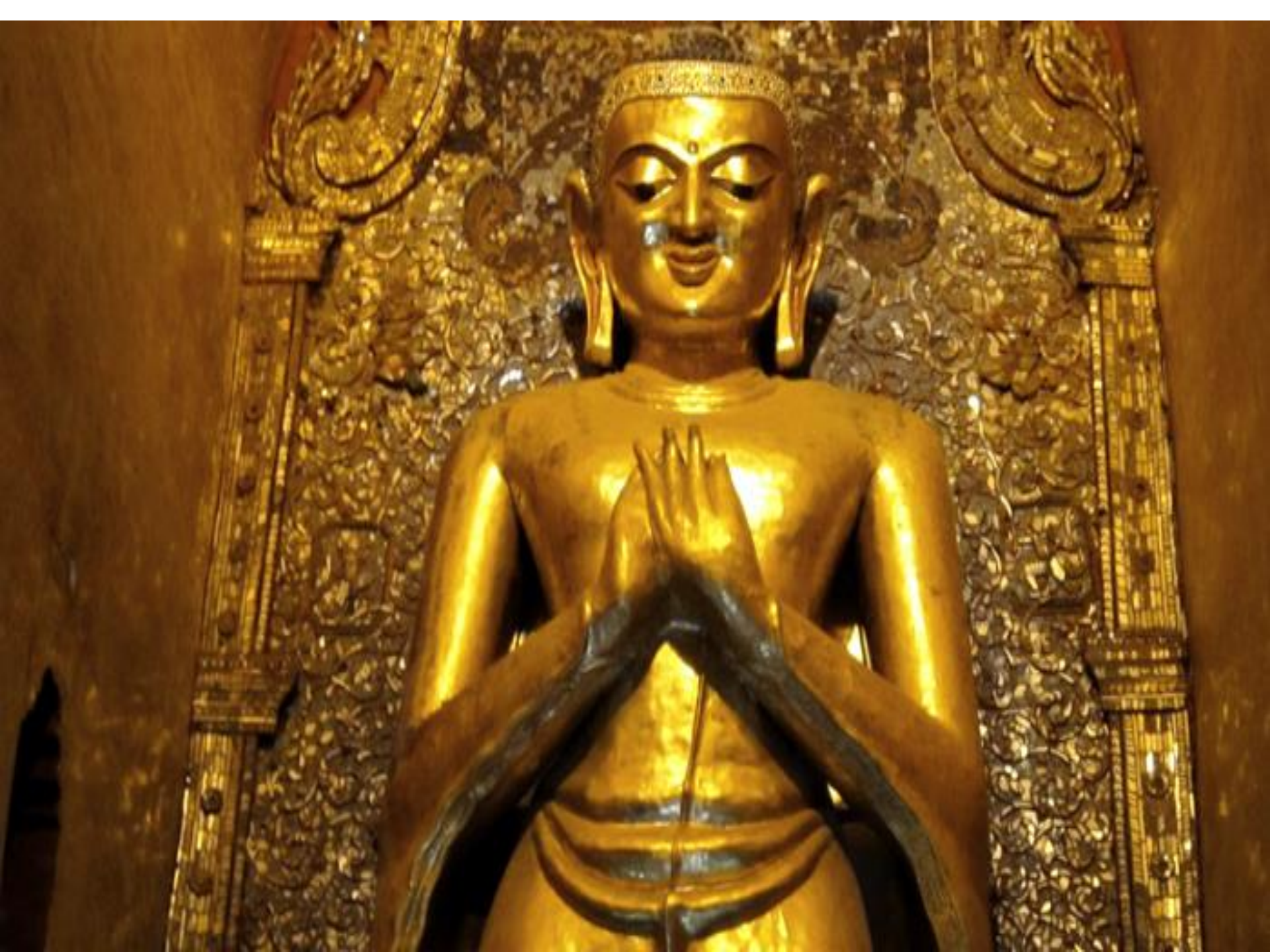
*Idolatry is wrong but why is it wrong?*













# Definition

- Idolatry is the extreme admiration, love, for something or someone.
- It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God.
- It is anything you seek to give you what only God can give.
- It is anything or anyone into which we pour divine attributes.
- Anything can be an idol, and everything has been an idol.
- An idol is whatever you look at and say, in your heart of hearts, “If I have that, then I’ll feel my life has meaning, then I’ll know I have value, then I’ll feel significant and secure.”



“What is an idol? Well, it is the thing loved or the person loved more than God, wanted more than God, desired more than God, treasured more than God, enjoyed more than God. It could be a girlfriend. It could be good grades. It could be the approval of other people. It could be success in business. It could be sexual stimulation. It could be a hobby or a musical group that you are following or a sport or your immaculate yard. I was looking for some yard stuff the other day and I clicked on a video ad for a yard service and three people came on and all of them made the point that this yard service enabled them to brag that they had the best yard in the neighborhood. I thought: What a motivation? I want to be number one in green grass. So that could be an idol. Or your own looks could be an idol. It could be anything.”

**- John Piper**

## 2 Questions -

- What thing if you lost it would take away your will to live?
- What thing if you lost it would take away all significance and all value would be drained out of your life?
- What ever that thing is, the Bible calls an idol.
- “If I only had \_\_\_\_\_, then I’d be happy.”
- If anything becomes more fundamental than God to your happiness, meaning in life, and identity, then it is an idol.
- Idols are good things turned into ultimate things.
- The better something or someone is, the more likely it will become our idol.

## **2 ways idolatry is expressed:**

- 1. Externally – physical idols (traditional idols) – statues, shrines, totems, objects, anything created out of a material substance, or virtually anything created living or dead.**

### **Rom 1:22-23,25**

22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator,

“If we find God to be so boring or so negligible that we must put other things in his place that really satisfy us more than he does, then we not only offend him, but we also destroy ourselves. And those two things make God angry. He doesn't want to be offended and he doesn't want us to destroy ourselves. And idolatry contradicts both of those things and so his wrath comes upon the idolater.”

**- John Piper**

**2. Internally – Idols of the heart – money, power, sex, self, career, romance, athletics, family, children, politics, profit, Christmas, music, peer approval, art, comfort, etc.**

*These good things become idols when they become ultimate things.*

## **Col 3:5,6**

5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,

## **Jer 17:9**

9 "The heart is more deceitful than all else  
And is desperately sick;  
Who can understand it?

## **Mark 7:21-23**

21 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil  
thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,  
22 deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality,  
envy, slander, pride and foolishness.  
23 "All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

## **Ezek 14:3**

3 these men have set up their idols in their hearts  
*Today instead of statues and shrines, we have office towers, spas  
and gyms, entertainment, 401k, make-up counters, clothing racks,  
computers, stadiums, houses, and cars and . . . .*

**The heart is an idol factory.**

“What are the gods of beauty, power, money, and achievement but these same things that have assumed mythic proportions in our individual lives and in our society? We may not physically kneel before the statue of Aphrodite, but many young women today are driven into depression and eating disorders by an obsessive concern over their body image. We may not actually burn incense to Artemis, but when money and career are raised to cosmic proportions, we perform a kind of child sacrifice, neglecting family and community to achieve a higher place in business and gain more wealth and prestige.”

**- *Tim Keller***

***Author & Pastor***

## Rom 1:22-28

- 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,
- 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.
- 24 Therefore **God gave them** over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.
- 25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- 26 For this reason **God gave them** over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,
- 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.
- 28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them** over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper,



“In the day to day trenches of adult life, there is no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. And the compelling reason for maybe choosing a spiritual god like Jesus Christ, Allah, or Yahweh is because anything else that you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough and you will never feel like you have enough. If you worship your body and beauty, then you will always feel ugly. And when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths until they finally grieve you. If you worship power you will end up feeling weak and afraid. And you will need more and more power over others just to numb you to your own fear. If you worship your intellect for being seen as smart, you will end up feeling stupid, a fraud, always on the verge of being found out. But the insidious thing about all these forms of worship, is that they are unconscious. They are default settings.”

**- David Foster Wallace**

“What many people call “psychological problems” are simple issues of idolatry. Perfectionism, workaholism, chronic indecisiveness, the need to control the lives of others—all of these stem from making good things into idols that then drive us into the ground as we try to appease them. Idols dominate our lives.”

**- *Tim Keller***

- *Whatever we seek to idolize, we will end up being controlled by.*
- *Whatever we are controlled by, we become its slave.*
- *Whatever idol we are a slave of will eventually disappoint us, break our hearts, and ultimately, if we let it, destroy us.*
- *All idols will fail you.*
- *“We need to learn to yearn for God **alone**.”*

## **1 Thess 1:9-10**

9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

## **1 John 5:21**

21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

## **Rev 13:11-16**

- 11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon.
- 12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.
- 13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.
- 14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life.
- 15 And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

***“and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood,”***

**Note:** At two times in history *every person alive* knew God: (1) at the time of Adam and Eve and, (2) after the flood. Now stop and consider the many “lost peoples” and cultures which have no notion of God. They are “lost” in the truest sense of the word. At one time their ancestors had *direct knowledge* of the God of the Bible, but intervening generations walked away from Him and darkness now prevails. Idols destroyed having a relationship with God.

## Rev 9:20-21

20 The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so as not to worship demons, and the idols of gold and of silver and of brass and of stone and of wood, **which can neither see nor hear nor walk;**

21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

# ***“which can neither see nor hear nor walk;”***

- John reminds his readers of the helplessness of these idols.

## **Deut 4:28-29**

28 "There you will serve gods, the work of man's hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell.

## **Ps 115:3-8**

3 But our God is in the heavens;

He does whatever He pleases.

4 Their idols are silver and gold,

The work of man's hands.

5 They have mouths, but they cannot speak;

They have eyes, but they cannot see;

6 They have ears, but they cannot hear;

They have noses, but they cannot smell;

7 They have hands, but they cannot feel;

They have feet, but they cannot walk;

They cannot make a sound with their throat.

8 Those who make them will become like them,

Everyone who trusts in them.

## **Isa 44:9-20**

- 9 Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame.
- 10 Who has fashioned a god or cast an idol to no profit?
- 11 Behold, all his companions will be put to shame, for the craftsmen themselves are mere men. Let them all assemble themselves, let them stand up, let them tremble, let them together be put to shame.
- 12 The man shapes iron into a cutting tool and does his work over the coals, fashioning it with hammers and working it with his strong arm. He also gets hungry and his strength fails; he drinks no water and becomes weary.
- 13 Another shapes wood, he extends a measuring line; he outlines it with red chalk. He works it with planes and outlines it with a compass, and makes it like the form of a man, like the beauty of man, so that it may sit in a house.
- 14 Surely he cuts cedars for himself, and takes a cypress or an oak and raises it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a fir, and the rain makes it grow.



- 15 Then it becomes something for a man to burn, so he takes one of them and warms himself; he also makes a fire to bake bread. He also makes a god and worships it; he makes it a graven image and falls down before it.
- 16 Half of it he burns in the fire; over this half he eats meat as he roasts a roast and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, "Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire."
- 17 But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god."
- 18 They do not know, nor do they understand, for He has smeared over their eyes so that they cannot see and their hearts so that they cannot comprehend.
- 19 No one recalls, nor is there knowledge or understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire and also have baked bread over its coals. I roast meat and eat it. Then I make the rest of it into an abomination, I fall down before a block of wood!"
- 20 He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, "Is there not a lie in my right hand?"

## Rev 9:20-21

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21 **and they did not repent of their murders** nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality nor of their thefts.

## ***“and they did not repent of their murders”***

- Murder in the Tribulation will escalate.
- No one will think anything of killing another human being.
- During the Tribulation, there will be increased murders, as those who refuse to worship the beast are “purged” from society.

## Rev 9:20-21

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## ***“nor of their sorceries”***

- "sorceries" *πηαρμακεια* , pharmakeia - we get our word "pharmacy" from it.
- The word can refer to poisons, charms, incantation, séances, enchantment , magic spells, witchcraft, or any other object or practice that makes someone susceptible to sin. The use of drugs is often a part of witchcraft or demonism.
- In the Tribulation many will be on drugs and men will kill and steal to get them.
- Sorcery was forbidden by the Law of Moses as were all practices which involved communication with the dead such as conjuring spells, consulting mediums, spiritism, or calling up the dead. This also included all forms of magic.

### **Deut 18:10-12**

- 10 "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,
- 11 or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.
- 12 "For whoever does these things is detestable to the Lord;

## **Rev 2:20-21**

20 'But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

24 'But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan,

***“One need only view modern cartoons on television or observe the recent Harry Potter phenomenon to observe how the foundation continues to be laid for subsequent generations who will have little reservation to participate in these forbidden practices.”***

## Rev 9:20-21

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21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries **nor of their immorality** nor of their thefts.

## ***“nor of their immorality”***

- Greek word πορνεία, porneia - from which we get our word pornography.
- Porneia is a broad term that looks at sexual sins and perversions of every type - adultery, fornication, rape, homosexuality, etc...



## Rev 9:20-21

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21 and they did not repent of their murders nor of their sorceries nor of their immorality **nor of their thefts.**

## ***“nor of their thefts.”***

- This is the Greek word κλεμμα, klemma -“a thing stolen,”
- Theft is a broad sin which underwrites many other sins.
- Includes the practice of fraud, theft, and deceit.
- Mankind will lie, steal, cheat, and defraud at every turn.
- As morality goes on the decline, so does honesty.

“What a horrible and grim picture the Spirit of God has painted for us of these final days!!! Men will hold nothing sacred anymore. Not life, not marriage or the family or sex, not one’s health, nor the property and rights of others. Man will be given over completely to sensual indulgence and he will do anything to satisfy his cravings. Is not this in itself the greatest judgment he will face? It demonstrates the total ruin of all meaning to life. I used to think this condition in society and the misery of man’s soul at this point would be great beyond imagination. But now in the nineties we see (in our country as well as others) the same signs of moral degeneration—a hardened and unrepentant spirit and moral decadence of the worst kind—murder and violence, stealing in every conceivable form (from petty theft to political and corporate fraud), and gross immorality. It’s a frightening picture.”

**- J. Hampton Keathley, III**



**Rhea Miller**  
**1894 - 1966**

This hymn was penned in 1922 by Rhea F. (Ross) Miller and its most famous melody composed by George Beverly Shea in 1939.

**Rhea F. (Ross) Miller**

Rhea was born in 1894 in Brooktondale, New York to parents Martin and Bertha Ross. Rhea's mother was a Christian but her father was an alcoholic who wanted nothing to do with church or religion. Bertha, however, faithfully prayed for her husband and he eventually accepted Christ and became a pastor. The Miller family attended Martin's church where their son Howard met Rhea, fell in love, and married. Rhea was walking through a field near her home in 1922 and began to reflect

on her father's testimony of being delivered from alcoholism. From those reflections she penned these words – one source indicates that she also composed music to accompany them — but the melody that would make the song known world-wide would be composed several years later.



**Rhea Miller**  
**1894 - 1966**

Howard Miller served as a Nazarene pastor and District Superintendent for both the New England and New York State Districts. In 1939 he became Dean of Religion at Northwest Nazarene College in Idaho. In 1940 he was elected as one of the General Superintendents of the Nazarene denomination. He died on December 28, 1948 while cutting firewood at his home in Brooktondale. Following her husband's death, Rhea taught piano and according to the account of Ron Kelly, Jr., "[S]he had one particular goal with her teaching, and that was to get into as many pastors' homes as possible and teach their

children how to play the piano, at no fee to the pastor's family, so that when they reached maturity they would have something to contribute to the Church." Rhea was described as a vibrant and fascinating woman. Sadly, she later developed Parkinson's Disease and lost control of her left hand. She passed away in 1966.



**George Beverly Shea**  
**1909 - 2013**

## **George Beverly Shea**

George Beverly Shea was born on February 1, 1909 in Winchester, Ontario, Canada to Adam Joseph and Maude Mary Theodora (Whitney) Shea. His father was a Wesleyan Methodist pastor, ministering in Canada until taking a pastorate in New York. Bev Shea, with his distinct baritone voice, first performed publicly as a member of the church choir. He apparently had a natural affinity for music as he later related: “I’m in the middle of eight children and my mother noticed that I couldn’t stay away from the piano, he said. When I was very young, before the others came along, I was banging on the piano and so she took time to teach me some chords, like people do on a guitar these days.



**George Beverly Shea**  
**1909 - 2013**

I took lessons for a while, but I found out that I would rather just develop different chords in all the different keys and play by ear. I don't do it for people today, but I still play like this for my wife and for my own enjoyment morning and night." Although he became a Christian as a young boy, he recommitted his life to Christ at the age of eighteen. For a time he attended Annesley College in Ottawa and later transferred to Houghton College in New York where he studied music. When his funds were depleted he dropped out in 1929 and took a job with Mutual Insurance Company of New York as a medical clerk. His work involved assisting medical examiners in gathering information about a policy applicant's health history. In the course of his work he made the acquaintance of Fred Allen, host of a coast-to-coast radio talent show.



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the Great Depression Not long afterwards, he sat down one Sunday morning at his mother's organ to practice for the morning service. His mother had copied the poem penned by Rhea Miller in 1922 and left it on the instrument where he would find it. Bev Shea meditated on the words and reflected on his own ambitions, while running his fingers over the keyboard to find the appropriate melody. That Sunday morning he sang this hymn for the first time, the hymn that would later become his signature song. Bev later relocated to Chicago and worked in Christian broadcasting. One morning he heard a knock on his door and was met by a tall young man, none other than Billy Graham.

Upon learning of Bev's singing talent, Allen arranged an audition. A few weeks later Bev was singing "Go Down Moses" on the National Broadcasting Company. His efforts garnered him second place, fifteen dollars and a taste for possible fame. He was offered a substantial salary to sing on the radio, a tempting offer in the midst of





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Billy had traveled from Wheaton College on a train to stop by and say “hello.” Bev Shea began working with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in 1947 as gospel soloist. Following the 1949 Los Angeles crusade, Billy Graham’s ministry gained international notoriety.

Bev Shea was honored by the Guinness Book of World Records for having sung before more than 220 million people – more than anyone in history.



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He married his first wife Erma Scharfe on June 16, 1934 and they had two children, Ronnie and Elaine. Erma died in 1976 and in 1985 he married Karlene Aceto. Bev became a naturalized American in 1941 and later made his home just down the road from Billy Graham's home in Montreat, North Carolina. As a result of his international gospel singing career, he garnered recognition and awards, including induction into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1978 and a Lifetime Achievement Grammy in 2011. George Beverly Shea lived a good long life, dying at the age of 104 on April 16, 2013 of stroke complications. He is buried on the grounds of the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina. The hymn that he wrote . .

# I'd Rather Have Jesus

1 I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold;  
I'd rather be His than have riches untold;  
I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands.  
I'd rather be led by His nail pierced hand

***Chorus:***

***Than to be the king of a vast domain***

***Or be held in sin's dread sway.***

***I'd rather have Jesus than anything***

***This world affords today.***

2 I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause;  
I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause;  
I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame.  
I'd rather be true to His holy name [Chorus]

## I'd Rather Have Jesus

3 He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom;  
He's sweeter than honey from out the comb;  
He's all that my hungering spirit needs.  
I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead.

***Chorus:***

***Than to be the king of a vast domain  
Or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
This world affords today.***