

87. Idols in My Chapel



An idol is anything that I look to for safety and protection other than YHWH. Idolatry is about control. We want the weather to be favourable to our plans, our finances to be secure, and to influence the opinions of others so they support us.

To propitiate these capricious gods, I can find myself beholden to a pantheon; YHWH is there on the altar of course, but in niches around my personal chapel stands the others. God of course wants the chapel exclusively for Himself- and me. But can I trust God enough so that I clear the site exclusively for His Spirit? I am not keen to relinquish familiar habits and idols that have seemingly served me well in the past. Idols like status, intellectualism, respect, financial resources, my skills and possessions, the approval of the gallery. To switch to a childlike trust in Jesus, is, well, *childish*.

God says to us today:

I AM creator of your weather
I AM author of all the social encounters of your day
I AM stepping out alongside you
I AM with you in the frenzy of the traffic and the crowds
I AM pointing direction through the deluge of signals and messages breaking over your bow
I AM nourishment and refreshment at your fatigue points
I AM the One singing over you
I AM your rock and shelter, so take the risk and be vulnerable

References

Don't make idols for yourselves; don't set up an image or a sacred pillar for yourselves, and don't place a carved stone in your land that you can bow down to in worship. I am God, your God.
Lev 26:1

"Get rid of all the vile things that you've become addicted to. Don't make yourselves filthy with the Egyptian no-god idols. I alone am God, your God." Ez 20:7

Be careful not to get involved in activities connected with idols
Acts 15:28

Is a light best friend with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way: "I'll live in them, move into them; I'll be their God and they'll be my people. So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good," says God. "Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself. I'll be a Father to you; you'll be sons and daughters to me." The Word of the Master, God. 2 Cor 6:17-18

David confirms this way of looking at it, saying that the one who trusts God to do the putting-everything-right without insisting on having a say in it is one fortunate person. Rm 4:6

Scripture reassures us, "No one who trusts God like this—heart and soul—will ever regret it."
Rm 10:11

Whoever trusts in this stone as a foundation will never have cause to regret it. To you who trust him, he's a Stone to be proud of, but to those who refuse to trust him, the stone the workmen threw out is now the chief foundation stone. For the untrusting it's a stone to trip over, a boulder blocking the way. They trip and fall because they refuse to obey, just as predicted 1 Pet 2:8

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_QyEiNjrS0

Dion song *I Put Away My Idols*

Trust in the Lord, and lean not on your own understanding Prov 3:5-6
Confía en el Señor con todo tu corazón
En todos tus caminos reconócelo
Y él enderezará
Y él enderezará su camino

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sR7VVarFKTQ&feature=related>

Maranatha Kids singing Proverbs 3:5-6

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcBWOBUVdfY&feature=related>

Trust in You Hillsong