

Idolatry and Addiction, A Sunday School Lesson

“Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen” (1 John 5:21).

“You shall have no other gods before Me” (Exodus 20:3).

What are some idols in the Bible?

1. Psalm 115:4-8, Silver and Gold, whether fashioned into figurines or not
2. Romans 1:21-23, Images, house gods of human creation
3. Galatians 4:8-9, Worldly Principles, Human Knowledge, and Dead Religion
4. Galatians 5:19-21, Demonic Associations and Practices

But what does the Bible say? “Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry” (1 Corinthians 10:14).

The distinction is made between 1 John 5:19-20 and 1 John 5:21. “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.”

Whose sway do you want to live under? Who will you serve? What will you choose? Satan and immediate gratification? Or Jesus and eternal life?

Idolatry and addiction are closely related. Neither one is of God. Both are sins people choose. They are not diseases. Let us not make excuses for sin, but call it what it is. Addiction is spending all our time and energy on the same thing, making it our top priority, when God should be our top priority. Even good things can become addictions if they take our focus away from God and a purposeful life.

Some things that can become addictions are-

1. Video Games
2. The Internet
3. Phones
4. Alcohol and/or drugs
5. Shopping and/or Spending
6. Gambling and/or fantasy sports
7. Television
8. Sports or Hobbies