

The Only Way to Resist Idolatry

Judges 2

Introduction: What is idolatry?

Colossians 3:5

Covetousness is an “inappropriate desire for more.”

Idolatry is when we treasure, trust, or thirst for something or someone more than God.

Psalms 115:4-8

Our fallen tendency is to abandon faithfulness to God for the worship of idols.

Psalms 106:34-39

I. Faithfulness in One Generation Does Not Guarantee Faithfulness in the Next Generation

Three reasons why God did not drive out the remaining Canaanites...

1. It was to punish His people for not obeying; 2:3, 21
2. It was to prepare the next generations for war; 3:2
3. It was to prove the next generations, to see if they would obey the Lord or not; 2:22; 3:1, 4

2 Kings 23; 18-21

Genesis 3-4

Proverbs 22:6

II. The Idols of Canaan are Still with Us

A. The Idol of Wealth and Prosperity

The name “Baal” was used for the weather/storm god in the Canaanite religion.

Matthew 6:19-21, 24-26

The name “Ashtaroath” designated a female goddess, and was worshipped as the goddess of love.

B. The Idol of sensuality

III. The Only Way to Resist Idolatry

Genesis 4:1, 17

1 Samuel 2:12

“You can know honey in two distinct ways: you can know the exact chemical makeup of honey; or you can taste it. Both are ways we can ‘know’ honey. But only the latter is the knowledge by which honey is experienced.” - Jonathan Edwards

The rising generation of Israelites knew about the Lord, but they didn’t have an intimate relationship with Him.

Philippians 4:11-13

Philippians 3:7-8

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

Knowing the Lord in an intimate way begins with salvation.

Salvation is only the beginning and foundation of knowing the Lord.

Colossians 1:10

Psalms 42:1

Luke 19:1-10

The love of Jesus for you and for me has the power to crush the idols of our heart.

“The rule for doing this is simple but demanding. It is that we turn each truth about God into matter for meditation before God, leading to prayer and praise to God.” - J.I. Packer