



REAL HEROES FOR DARK DAYS

A STUDY OF JUDGES

#13: THE DANGERS OF IDOLATRY (PART 2) JUDGES 17-18

JIM HINTON

I. THE PROBLEM OF IDOLATRY

1. What is idolatry?

An idol is anything that becomes as important as God or takes the place of God in my heart.

If you love anything better than God you are idolaters: if there is anything you would not give up for God it is your idol: if there is anything that you seek with greater fervor than you seek the glory of God, that is your idol, and conversion means a turning from every idol.

Charles Spurgeon

Idolatry happens when we take good things and make them ultimate things

Timothy Keller

The idolatry that exists in a man's heart always wants to lead him away from his Savior and back to self-reliance no matter how pitiful that self-reliance is or how many times it has betrayed him.

Matt Chandler

2. Why is idolatry so tempting?

- Idolatry guarantees results
- Idolatry is selfish
- Idolatry is easy
- Idolatry is convenient
- Idolatry is normal
- Idolatry is logical
- Idolatry is pleasing to the senses
- Idolatry is indulgent
- Idolatry is erotic*

3. How is idolatry dangerous?

Their ways are futile and foolish. They cut down a tree, and a craftsman carves an idol. They decorate it with gold and silver and then fasten it securely with hammer and nails so it won't fall over. Their gods are like helpless scarecrows in a cucumber field! They cannot speak, and they need to be carried because they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of such gods, for they can neither harm you nor do you any good."

Jeremiah 10:3-5 (NLT)

IV. OVERVIEW OF JUDGES CHAPTERS 17 AND 18

The consequences of radical relativism:

1. Chaos in the family 17:1-6

2. Chaos in the worship (17:7-13)

3. Chaos in the society (18:1-31)