

WCBC SERMON NOTES - MAY 21, 2017

TOPIC: HINDRANCES TO GOD'S BLESSINGS!

Sermon 1: *The Hindrance of Idolatry!*

TEXT: Exodus 19:17-25; 20:1-3

INTRO: Background of the First Commandment

I. THE "god" OF PLEASURE: II Tim. 3:1-5

II Tim. 3:4: *"treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of PLEASURE rather than lovers of God"*

- King Solomon!

King Solomon was:

1. Alcoholic - Eccl. 2:3
 2. Womanizer - I Kings 11:3
 3. Materialistic - I Kings 10:23-26
 - Prohibitions Re Israel's Future King!
- *Positive Pleasure!

II. THE "god" OF POSSESSIONS: Matt. 6:19-24

Matthew 6:24: *"No man can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money (POSSESSIONS)."*

- The Rich Young Man!

About Possessions:

1. They don't satisfy - Eccl. 5:10
 2. They are hurtful - I Tim. 6:9 CF. Hebrews 13:5
 3. They are deceitful - Matt. 13:22
 - Legend of Midas!
 4. They are uncertain - I Tim. 6:17
 5. They must be left behind - Psalm 49:10
 - King Solomon - Eccl. 2:18-19
- *Christ's Great Teaching on Possessions!

III. THE "god" OF PRIDE: Acts 12:21-23

Acts 12:22: *"They shouted, 'This is the VOICE OF A GOD, NOT OF A MAN.'"*

Note: Herod elevated himself over God = PRIDE!

About Pride:

1. It is the FIRST of the seven things that God dislikes - Prov. 6:16-19, esp. v. 17
 2. It leads to RUIN! - Prov. 16:18
 - Herod & Satan
- *God's Reaction To The Proud!

CONCLUSION:

- Jesus' Restatement of the First Commandment!

What Is Your "god?"

What other gods could we have besides the Lord? Plenty. For Israel, there were the Canaanite Baals, those jolly nature gods whose worship was a rampage of gluttony, drunkenness, and ritual prostitution. For us, there are still the great gods Sex, Shekels, and Stomach (an unholy trinity constituting one god: self), and the other enslaving trio, Pleasure, Possessions, and Position, whose worship is described as "The lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life" (I John 2:16). Football, the Firm, and Family are also gods for some. Indeed, the list of other gods is endless for anything that anyone allows to run his life becomes his god, and the claimants for this prerogative are legion. In the matter of life's basic loyalty, temptation is a many-headed monster. - James Packer

Verse For Today

"You shall have no other gods before Me!"- Exodus 20:3

Food For Thought

"Idolatry is seeking security and meaning in someone or something other than God!" - A. R. Bernard

