

Sermon notes: February 21, 2021

In Love With A Decoy

Passage: [1 John 5:20-21](#)

Why Is Idol Worship An Issue:

Acts 17:16 ¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols.

1 Thessalonians 1:9 ⁹ for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

Exodus 20:4 ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

Exodus 32:1 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods^[a] who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."

Psalms 31:6 ⁶ I hate those who cling to worthless idols; as for me, I trust in the LORD.

Psalms 103:36 ³⁶ They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them.

Isaiah 2:8 ⁸ Their land is full of idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made.

1 Corinthians 10:7, 11, 12 ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry."^[a]

¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

Ephesians 5:5 ⁵ For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.^[a]

Colossians 3:5 ⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Why Is Idolatry Dangerous?

Isaiah 44:17 ¹⁷ From the rest he makes a god, his idol; he bows down to it and worships. He prays to it and says, "Save me! You are my god!"

Psalms 16:4 ⁴ Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips.

Isaiah 44:20 ²⁰ Such a person feeds on ashes; a deluded heart misleads him; he cannot save himself, or say, "Is not this thing in my right hand a lie?"

Application:

Be Alert

Keep God As Your Focus

Hosanna

Verse 1

I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes yeah

Verse 2

I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing

Chorus

Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest

Verse 3

I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith

Verse 4

I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees

Bridge

Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me
Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity

Revelation Song

Verse 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Verse 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Verse 3

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1

Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Verse 2

Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Verse 3

High King of heaven my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my Vision O Ruler of all

Ending

Be Thou my Vision