"Worshipping idols" by Jeremiah.

Today, I would like to give a message about "worshipping idols."

Revelation prophesizes that apostate Christians and churches will worship idols as mentioned below.

Revelation 9:20 The rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood-idols that cannot see or hear or walk.

9:21 Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

Let's take a further look here.

<Idol worshipping is connected to worshipping a person>

Lord understood what idol worshipping means and talked about it as below.

Matthew 13:10 The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

13:11 He replied, "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

The secret of the Bible is hidden behind parables, so it is important for us to understand them. For example, "idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood-idols that cannot see or hear or walk" is a parable of worshipping a person.

Gold and silver mean faith, therefore it is talking about us worshipping a faithful person as an idol, and stone and wood are Christians. Lord actually called Peter (rock) as a classic example.

Lord also said that He is the tree and we are the branches. This confirms that tree is a

parable of Christians.

"Idols that cannot see or hear or walk."

People worship faithful leaders, pastors, teachers, and revivalists. However, the scripture says that idols that cannot see or hear or walk.

They may disagree with the statement, but I have to say I agree with it personally.

People worship other people so often, which means that it is getting more difficult to see the word of God. They can't understand what is written in Revelation at all as they don't see it.

They also don't listen to the warnings from God and instead believe wrong theories such as Pre-tribulation rapture. It is clear that they are not listening to anything.

They can't even recognize demonic revivalists as they are unable to distinguish between Holy Spirit and evil spirits.

<Idol worshippers will be put to shame>

The Bible says that if you prioritize people over the word of God, you will be put to shame as below.

Isaiah 44:9 All who make idols are nothing, and the things they treasure are worthless. Those who would speak up for them are blind; they are ignorant, to their own shame.

44:10 Who shapes a god and casts an idol, which can profit nothing?

44:11 People who do that will be <u>put to shame</u>;such craftsmen are only human beings.Let them all come together and take their stand;they will be brought down to terror and shame.

This statement is the truth. For example, Hal Lindsay published a book in the 1970s which became so popular among Christian churches, and Japan was also caught in the middle of this phenomenon with some people writing similar books.

Many people abandoned the healthy doctrine of the Bible and followed that of Lindsay, however, those who saw a person as a god was put to shame. Although Lindsay's book sold really well, he was embarrassed later as his predictions turned to be unfulfilled. He claimed that Armageddon was coming in 1980's and there will be no tribulation, but of course, it didn't happen. He and his blind followers were put to shame.

<Anyone who speaks the word of God will become an idol>

The Bible talks about the danger of anyone speaking the false word of God becoming an idol. Let's take a look at the scripture below.

Isaiah 44:14 He heweth him down cedars, and taketh the cypress and the oak, which he strengtheneth for himself among the trees of the forest: he planteth an ash, and the rain doth nourish it.

Let's look at this scripture.

44:15 Then shall it be for a man to burn: for he will take thereof, and warm himself yea, he kindleth it, and baketh bread; yea, he maketh a god, and worshippeth it; he maketh it a graven image, and falleth down thereto.

The bread is a parable of the word of God, which means that a person who deals with the word of God can be seen as an idol. It also talks about warming up with the fire and the fire means Holy Spirit. This means that this scripture is talking about the danger of people seeing other people bringing the works of the Holy Spirit as idols.

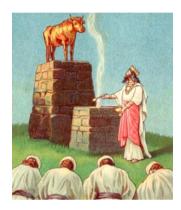
44:17 And the residue thereof he maketh a god, even his graven image: he falleth down unto it, and worshippeth it, and prayeth unto it, and saith, Deliver me; for thou art my god.

This part describes that a person who works as Holy Spirit will end up being placed as

an idol when this person pretends to be authorized to speak the word of God.

<When Lord came to the earth, it was also the era of idol worshipping>

When Jesus Christ came to the earth, people were worshipping idols. Although Israelites didn't worship Baal and other idols, they worshipped other people, and their heart wasn't with the word of God. That is why Jesus said as below.



Idol worshipping

Luke 12:54 And he also said to the people, when ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, There cometh a shower; and so it is.

Jesus told off the crowd since they didn't make judgments by themselves. Instead, they blindly accepted what Pharisees and rabbis were saying and this is how they were worshipping people.

Perhaps they were saying something that sounded sweet in people's ears, such as receiving blessings and grace in the near future. However, this era received God's wrath. In fact, 40 years later, Jerusalem was attacked by their enemy, and every single one of them was killed.

People who were worshipping people couldn't see this coming. This will also happen in the era of Revelation, also known as End Times. People who worship an idol who can't see, hear, and walk will make the same mistake in End Times.

<People in Jesus' time chose idols>

When Jesus came, God gave us the light and truth as described below.

John 1:9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

Even though the Lord came as the light of truth, unfortunately, people still did not understand it. Instead, they chose to worship the teachings of other humans which are different from the truth. As a result, the people ended up killing the person who was the light, the truth, and, the word of God. It is described as below.

Mark 14:43 And immediately, while he yet spake, cometh Judas, one of the twelve, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders.

As written here, the crowd listened to rabbis and elders rather than Jesus and joined them to kill Him eventually. This event was prophetic as a similar crucifixion as well as idol worshipping will happen again in End Times.

It is believed that the crowd will support idol-worshipping instead of the truth of God, and those people will accept different doctrines from the word of God just like Jesus' enemy did.

Actually, this is already happening. Many Christians ignore the strict word of God and welcome non-biblical doctrines. As I repeat shamelessly, Pre-tribulation rapture theory is a classic example. This is a kind of movement by tricked Christians and the crowd will be widespread in End Times, and the crucifixion of Jesus will be repeated as described below.

Revelation 11:8 Their bodies will lie in the public square of the great city-which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt-where also their Lord was crucified.

This shows that the crucifixion is going to be repeated in End Times and this time the word of God gets crucified. This prophecy is based on the sin of idol worshipping. In fact, homosexuality and tattoos are becoming more common through worldly pastors. What I have already repeated many times have also been seen in Japan as well. However, this could lead to idol worship for some, and we need to be aware of that.

<Now is the time of idol worship>

Corinthians describes that the Old Testament was written as a warning to us as shown below.

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now, all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Therefore, if you read the article about idol worship by the people of the Old Testament and think this has got nothing to do with you, it means that you have missed the point. The correct interpretation is that this is a warning to us who could easily fall into idol worshipping as we worship other people. Regardless of Pentecostal, Catholic, and other denominations, we should only worship God.



Some people see Hal Lindsay as an idol.

Knowing the era "The era of deception" by H.F

Currently, people are more interested in fortune telling and cult activities. Part of the reason for this is Harry Potter which became super famous in the world. The movie and book invited children and adults to open up their mind to magic. European countries were said to be Christian nations, but it is obvious that they are enjoying fortune telling and magic.

Marketwatch (19/Dec/2017) released an article about a handful of people who sometimes ask "What is your sign?" when they meet with someone, and mentioned that many people read start signs every day. There is a rise of interest in spirituality

recently, and according to the research done by Pew Research Center, more than half of American youths believe that astrology is a kind of science. According to IBIS World, astrology, aura, and tarot card business are growing significantly.

On Christian News Network (15/Jan/2018), there was an article that Chelsea Clinton, a daughter of the former American president, sent a New Year's greeting to the satanic church and many Twitter users were very concerned. The satanic church was built in 1966 by Anton Szandor Lavey, and they worship Satan. As you can see, even the U.S which is supposed to be a Christian country is seeing many people getting into cult and astrology these days. However, the Bible prohibits us from things like these.

Deuteronomy 18:10 There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch.

18:11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

18:12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

Fortune telling and cultism are what God doesn't like us to be into. Let's take a look at what is happening at Christian churches. A group called "Christalignment" in Melbourne is reported to be ministering by using "destiny cards" by Christian News Network (15/Feb/2018). Christalignment is actively involved in Bethel Church in California, and they insist that using the "destiny cards" is not wrong although it is seen as tarot cards.

The organizer of Black Lives Matter summoned the spirits of African leaders who died with the prohibited demonic magic during an event held at Hollywood United Methodist Church.

Black Lives Matter is a global movement which is conducted by African Americans who protest against discrimination. The article of Christian News Network mentioned that they tried to summon spirits of Martin Luther King and Malcolm brothers. Such cultic activity was practiced in the church.

Also, a pastor in Washington D.C called Mark Batterson published "The Circle Maker" in 2011, and it became very popular as a guidebook to a new prayer method. This method has adopted a prayer for rain which was practiced by legendary Jews. What you have to do is to draw a circle and pray in it. The Bible doesn't mention anything like this, but some churches get people to make a circle, and someone prays inside. Circle Making Versus The Straight Line of Truth, published by Lighthouse Trails Editors states that The Circle Maker method is from the cult activity.

This book also warns that "Prayer of Jabez" by Bruce. H. Wilkinson which was popular before is a curse prayer.

These examples tell us that demonic and cultic prayer are coming into the churches. Even pastors and leaders are taking demons in at the moment.

- 1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.
- 1 John 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

The Bible was warning that people would lose their faith and get confused by demonic activities. It is happening right now, and we need to understand it.



Destiny Cards