

THE PRIESTHOOD AND IDOLATRY PART 1 4.7.2024 THE OVERVIEW

The Devil wants our worship

We do not live in a merely material world. We live in a spiritual world.

Ephesians 3:10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*,

Matthew 4:9-11 (NKJV) And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " 11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

King Solomon Builds high places of Idolatry It is possible for idolatry to exist even in the midst of pure incense

1 King 11:7-8 (NKJV) Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that *is* east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. **8** And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

Captivity wasn't enough, Babylon wanted Israel's worship

Daniel 3:8-11 (NIV) At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews. 9 They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "May the king live forever! 10 Your Majesty has issued a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, 11 and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace.

<u>Worship will be given to "the dragon and the beast" at the end of the age</u>

Revelation 13:1-3 (NKJV) Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. **2** Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of* a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. **3** And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

Revelation 13:4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

Revelation 13:14-15 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an

image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. **15** He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

What is Idolatry?

Exodus 20:3-5 "You shall have no other gods before Me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

An idol is anything that man bows to, honors, or serves instead of God.

Deuteronomy 18:9-13

When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. **10** Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, **11** or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. **12** Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. **13** You must be blameless before the LORD your God.

Deuteronomy 32:16-17

16 They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign *gods;*With abominations they provoked Him to anger. **17** They sacrificed to demons, not to God, *To gods* they did not know,
To new *gods*, new arrivals
That your fathers did not fear.

There is a relationship between worshiping false gods, created images, sacrifice, witchcraft and sexual immorality that is clearly seen in the old testament. All of it is idolatry.

The question we should be asking ourselves is not if we are bowing down to carved images or sacrificing animals to statues? Most likely the answer to that is no. But rather what are we worshiping with our time, money, our hearts, our affections, that is not Jesus? Worship is a matter of the heart. Let's commit to be open today and allow the Holy Spirit to bring conviction where it is needed, instruction and empowerment to each of us, we all need this message.

<u>What do you do with idols?</u>

FLEE FROM THEM AND DESTROY THEM 1 Cor. 10:14, Deuteronomy 7:1-5, Acts 19:18-27

IGNORANT IDOLATRY

- INTRO
 - It's helpful to first answer the question:

• Can we sin (in general), and be ignorant / not even know about it? Yes.

• We can go back to Leviticus and see that the Lord addresses this.

Leviticus 5:17 (NIV): If anyone sins and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands, even though they do not know it, they are guilty and will be held responsible.

- This is both **comforting** and **concerning**.
- What's comforting about it is that if you keep reading, you will see that God had a way to **atone** for it, which shows his **mercy** and **compassion**.
- I want to point that out right away. God is always willing to forgive; God is always providing a way of escape; God is always laying out a path forward. So, even when we find ourselves in these kinds of situations, there's hope.
- It's concerning because God really does hold us accountable, and unless we are discerning and diligent, we could easily fall into sin and idolatry, and not even know it.

Main takeaways:

• One of the **primary ways** this happens is through the love of the world.

One of the primary ways we slip into ignorant idolatry is through the love of the world.

• If we look at some of the things the Bible says, the **correlation** between the love of the world and idolatry becomes pretty clear.

1 John 5:19, 21 (NKJV): 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one...21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

• The word for **world** is Kosmos. One of the primary meanings is an ordered system, especially related to culture and society.

Kósmos: ordered system, especially relating to culture and society

Interestingly, we get the word cosmetic from the word kosmos. When you think about cosmetics or make up, you have what is seen on the surface (the cosmetics), then there's the person behind the cosmetic.

- What the whole Bible is trying to communicate to us is that there is a person behind everything we see in culture and society, and although it might all seem pretty and harmless on the surface, the evil one has an influence on all of it.
- This is why in chapter 2 he **warns** us not to place our **affections** on the things of the world. He warns us that they are designed to **redirect our love** away from the Father to the things themselves, which is the essence of idolatry.

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT): Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for <u>when you love the</u> world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are <u>not from the Father</u>, but are from this world. 17 And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever.

Notice how he contrasts the things of the world with with what pleases God. It's because they bring us into alignment with the mind and intentions of the devil which is what he says in the passage we looked at from chapter 5.

(Nicki) You are putting your value into a set of principles that were put into place by a false god instead of the principles from the word of God.

• This is one of the **reasons** why James says **to believers** that friendship with the world makes us **enemies of God**, because through these things we become friends with the one who is behind it all.

James 4:4 (NLT): You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world <u>makes you an</u> <u>enemy of God?</u> I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, <u>you make yourself an</u> <u>enemy of God</u>.

- When he's talking about friendship, he's not talking about friendship with people.
 We're supposed to love people no matter how far they are from God, and develop real relationships with unbelievers so we can be a genuine light in their lives.
- What John is talking about are the *things* of the world—politics, education, commerce, arts and entertainment, media, fashion, etc. John says that all of that and more are under the direct influence of the evil one.
- As we **affectionately engage and align** ourselves with those things, we don't realize that our affections are being **redirected away** from the one who commands us to love him with **all our heart**, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength.
- As I read that list of things, how many of you could easily identify with the reality of what I'm saying. On the other hand, many of you were probably like, what's wrong with that?
- First, let me say that I am not suggesting that we throw it all out. Again, am I saying that we should we stop going to hospitals, stop getting degrees, and hide in caves? What I'm saying is we must be aware of how much these things are

designed to celebrate and/or promote the agenda of the enemy.

 It's important to realize that these things are not always obvious. So much of this seems innocent and even well meaning, on the surface—but that's part of the strategy of deception.

2 Corinthians 11:14-15 And no wonder, for even <u>Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness</u>. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

Two Examples:

• The first is from an article in The Guardian which is a popular non-christian news outlet. They published an article 10 years ago supporting exactly what the Bible says.

From The Guardian written by Nirpal Dhaliwal on 12/25/14, titled "How movies embraced Hinduism without you even noticing."

"From Interstellar to Batman and Star Wars, the venerable religion has been the driving philosophy behind many hit movies."

"The trilogy of Batman movies have <u>introduced a whole new generation to the Hindu god-myths,</u> and the philosophies of yoga related to one's internal journey...next year, even younger <u>recruits</u> to the cause [hindu way of thinking and operating] will feel the force of the new JJ Abrams movie. <u>Spirituality is the open-secret</u>. A lot of people know that if we quiet ourselves <u>we can tap</u> <u>into a deeper power</u>, and the movies that tap into that, like Star Wars and Interstellar, are hugely popular."

• A similar example is found on the Starbucks website **about their logo**, written 8 years ago.

From Starbucks Stories and News by Michelle Flandreau. Written 12/23/16. "Who is the Starbucks Siren?"

I thought their logo was a mermaid, which has its own problem, but they say she's actually a siren, and if you look up the full picture, she is postured in a very sexual position. A siren is a spiritual creature that has irresistible power to attract men so they can lure them to their death. What's interesting, sailors have reported having encounters with beings like that for 1000s of years, and they have always been associated with spiritual sexual practices and death. Here's what starbucks says:

"She's at the center of your Starbucks cup. That green mythological creature who's <u>staring into</u> <u>your soul</u> as you drink your latte. We cleaned her up a little bit, but she's still the siren...she stands for everything that we stand for."

• Here's the question, what does **repentance** look like for something done in **ignorance**? That's what were talking about–things done **without realizing** that it was **inclining our soul** towards idolatry. I think part of the answer can be found in **Romans 12:11**.

What does repentance look like (personally and corporately)?:

Roman 12:11- Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit; serve the Lord.

Don't be passive/do your due-diligence
 Draw a new line

- Romans 12:11-Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit; serve the Lord.
 - First thing Paul says is don't lack in zeal and diligence, in other words, don't be passive and apply the diligence it requires to to serve the Lord. One simple way to do this is to do your homework. Alexis and I have a 2 general rules in this area:
 - 1-if it doesn't appear in nature, we look it up. Things like trees and lions appear in nature, but mermaids and sirens do not, so we look up where they come from.
 We do this with symbols, logos on clothes, and things like entertainment before we watch any movies so we don't engage with them ignorantly.
 - 2-if we don't know the definition or meaning of something, we look it up. For example, lots of beauty and health products promote themselves as part of an Ayurvedic lifestyle. When you look that up you find that Ayurvedic it's a system of alternative medicine from India associated with the Hindu God Vishnu.
- As a result, I encourage you to draw a new line in the sand as to how freely you dismiss things, or allow yourself to engage with, or be entertained by, the things of the world. One simple way is to not allow yourself to take satisfaction or enjoyment in anything the Bible says grieves or offends God.

Lead the community through confession and prayers of repentance. Ask the community to stand together.

Father, forgive us for any passivity and any way we've postured ourselves as your enemies by making friendship with the world. We ask you to open our eyes to any way we've unknowingly or ignorantly engaged in idolatry. Renew our minds, and reset our affections and desires towards you.

Lord, help us to love what You love and grieve over the things that grieve You. Give us discernment, diligence, and zeal, that you might have first place in our lives. In Jesus name, amen.

INTENTIONAL IDOLATRY

I am going to jump right in to give us context for what I want to dive into in intentional idolatry. In contrast to what Christopher just shared in ignorant idolatry, these are things that are known to be actively engaging with false gods and idols.

Examples: Witchcraft/New Age Spirituality: tarot card readings, horoscopes, astrology, psychics, crystals, chakras, manifesting; Buddhism; Hinduism/certain yoga practices; Freemasonry To dive into intentional idolatry I want us to look at the narrative of the Israelites relationship with the Lord throughout the Old Testament. As we heard in some verses above, the first commandment that he asks of the Israelites and a concept that he continually, throughout their entire history, asks of them is for their worship to him alone. Yet, we see the Israelites over and over again refusing to give up their worship of Egyptian gods and then the gods of the nations of Canaan.

The Lord has always first and foremost desired our worship and devotion wholeheartedly

- a. Exodus: We see God moving on behalf of the Israelites through their deliverance out of Egypt. He send miraculous plagues that they witness overcome the most revered gods of Egypt, change the heart in Pharaoh, one of the most powerful national leaders in this time period to release the entire nation out of slavery, split an entire sea so they could pass through it, provide a pillar of cloud and fire to guide them through the desert, and provide water and bread from heaven. Yet for all of these miracles and the Lord moving on their behalf, scripture tells us that they never stopped worshiping other gods. We read this and often remark at their faithlessness. Yet it is so important that we read these scriptures and find ourselves in them. We are the Israelites!
- b. We might ask, After all he has shown them, how was he not worthy of their wholehearted worship and devotion? How could they not put aside their gods that he just proved to them in the plagues he was more powerful than? But it begs the same question to us today, is he not worthy to give him our wholehearted worship and to forsake all of our idols in light of all that he has done for us? Is he not worthy of this?

So, the Israelites continue to be unfaithful to the Lord throughout their entire history. Generation after generation after generation we see the Lord speaking through judges and prophets that they might return to him and given themselves to him, but with the exception of a few reigns of kings and judges, the Israelites are never able to give this to him. And we witness in Ezekiel a tragic consequence.

Priests worshiping Idols

Ezekiel 8:5-13; 10:18

"Then he said to me, "Son of man, look toward the north." So I looked, and in the entrance north of the gate of the altar I saw this idol of jealousy. And he said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing—the utterly detestable things the Israelites are doing here, things that will drive me far from my sanctuary? But you will see things that are even more detestable.""Then he brought me to the entrance to the court. I looked, and I saw a hole in the wall. "He said to me, "Son of man, now dig into the wall." So I dug into the wall and saw a doorway there. And he said to me, "Go in and see the wicked and detestable things they are doing here." So I went in and looked, and I saw portrayed all over the walls all kinds of crawling things and unclean animals and all the idols of Israel. In front of them stood seventy elders of Israel, and Jaazaniah son of Shaphan was standing among them. Each had a censer in his hand, and a fragrant cloud of incense was rising. He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of Israel are doing in the darkness, each at the shrine of his own idol? They say, 'The Lord does not see us;

the Lord has forsaken the land.' " Again, he said, "You will see them doing things that are even more detestable."" Ezekiel 8:5-6, 8-13 NIV

<u>"Then the glory of the Lord departed from over the threshold of the temple and stopped above the cherubim."</u> Ezekiel 10:18 NIV

Ezekiel 44:4; 10-16

"Then the man brought me by way of the north gate to the front of the temple. <u>I looked and saw</u> the glory of the Lord filling the temple of the Lord, and I fell facedown. "

'The Levites who went far from me when Israel went astray and who wandered from me after their idols must bear the consequences of their sin. They may serve in my sanctuary, having charge of the gates of the temple and serving in it; they may slaughter the burnt offerings and sacrifices for the people and stand before the people and serve them. But because they served them in the presence of their idols and made the people of Israel fall into sin, therefore I have sworn with uplifted hand that they must bear the consequences of their sin, declares the Sovereign Lord. They are not to come near to serve me as priests or come near any of my holy things or my most holy offerings; they must bear the shame of their detestable practices. And I will appoint them to guard the temple for all the work that is to be done in it. <u>"But the Levitical priests, who are descendants of Zadok and who guarded my sanctuary when the Israelites went astray from me, are to come near to minister before me; they are to stand before me to offer sacrifices of fat and blood, declares the Sovereign Lord. They alone are to enter my sanctuary; they alone are to come near my table to minister before me and serve me as guards." Ezekiel 44:4, 10-16 NIV</u>

Main Takeaways

There are consequences to worshiping other gods

- a. Ezekiel 8/10: So this lead us to a time that the Lord says, enough. And he prophesies through Ezekiel that on account of all of the worship of gods that his people are blatantly doing before his face that he is going to remove his presence from the temple. Ezekiel 44: in contrast to the prophecy in chapter 8, we see the Lord prophesying the redemption and restoration of the temple. His desire has and always will be to dwell richly with his people. In his plans of redemption we see His Glory return to the temple. But it is very clear from this passage that he is still requiring the same thing from his people, their undivided worship and devotion. He is so serious that even in this restored temple, only the priests who served him faithfully in pure worship were able to minister in his presence. All priests who served and worshiped other gods and idols were only able to serve in the outer courts of the temple.
- b. This brings us warning today. We constantly cry out for more of the Lord, for his presence to be made tangible among us, that his glory might pour forth in our midst that we might get to witness him. But these scriptures reveal to us that the Lord only allows the deepest intimacy to his people who have given them their undivided devotion and worship. If we do not take this seriously, we will individually and corporately miss out on the depths of encounter of his presence and power that he has laid out before us.

We must not tolerate any place of undivided hearts before the Lord and treat idolatry of the utmost seriousness.

- a. 1 Corinthians 10:14, 18-23 14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 18
 Observe Israel after the flesh: Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of
 the altar? 19 What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered
 to idols is anything? 20 Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they
 sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with
 demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you
 cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. 22 Or do we
 provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He? 23 All things are lawful
 for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things
 edify.
- b. In 1 Corinthians 10, after the verse that Gerald read about fleeing from idolatry, we see a deeper revelation about idol worship. It specifically tells us that when we participate in idol worship, that we are participating in the worship of demons. Every idol has a demonic power behind it, luring our worship. It specifically says in verse 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. We have to take this verse seriously. We are not just fooling around with things that god doesn't like or that are not good for us, or that we just need to make sure Jesus is at the center. We are making a choice whether we want to acknowledge it or not. Are we going to sit with demons or are we going to sit with the Lord? Because we can't do both.

What does repentance look like (personally and corporately)?:

- 1. Actively pray for and ask the lord for an undivided heart of worship towards him
- Intentionally partner with Holy Spirit to identify practical steps of removing idolatry from your heart

"Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name." Psalms 86:11 NIV

""Therefore say: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you back the land of Israel again.' "They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols. I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 11:17-19 NIV

Lead the community through confession and prayers of repentance. Ask the community to stand together.

Lord, we confess that we have given our worship and devotion to lesser gods. We repent for tolerating undivided hearts of worship before you. Forgive us for not following your greatest commandment to love you with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind. We ask that you would remove all idols from our hearts and out of your great mercy, heal us and give us new, undivided hearts that desire to love and worship you alone.

INDIFFERENCE TOWARD IDOLATRY

Revelation 2:18-20 (NKJV) 18 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: 19 "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. 20 <u>Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.</u>

Jesus was not satisfied by the good works, and impactful ministry taking place in the church while a toleration, allowance and indifference toward idolatry was present. He commended the church for their good works and challenged them to no longer be indifferent towards idolatry.

Main takeaways

To know that idolatry is being practiced and to not care is wrong.

1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

Keep: to watch, keep watch, to guard for one's self (i.e. for one's safety's sake) so as not to violate, i.e. to keep, observe (the precepts of the Mosaic law)

It is not enough to just watch out for and flee from idolatry. We also have to actively live lives that are obedient to the word of God if we are going to resist the temptation of being indifferent toward idolatry.

How do you know that you are no longer indifferent towards idolatry?

- You are actively praying and interceding against idolatry.
- You are actively seeking how to partner with Jesus to see idolatry exposed and removed.

What does repentance look like (personally and corporately)?:

Lead the community through confession and prayers of repentance. Ask the community to stand together.

Lord forgive us for tolerating and allowing idolatry around us. Forgive us for being indifferent and apathetic. Lord, we ask you today for a fresh zeal, boldness and grace to come into our hearts leading us to actively intercede and partner with you in the tearing down of idolatry. You alone are deserving of our worship and the worship of humanity, Amen.

<u>WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO TEAR IDOLS DOWN TODAY</u>

Deut. 7:5 But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their *sacred* pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire.

2 Chron. 14:1-2 As a did *what was* good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God, 3 for he **removed** the altars of the foreign *gods* and the high places, and **broke** down the *sacred* pillars and **cut** down the wooden images.

Acts 17:22-31 Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; **23** for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: **24** God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. **25** Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. **26** And He has made from one [j]blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, **27** so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; **28** for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.' **29** Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising. **30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, **31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

- 1. Paul confronted the false worship of his day directly
- 2. Paul exalted the true and living God in public
- 3. Paul communicated that God desired relationship with us through Jesus Christ
- 4. Paul told them that created things cannot be compared to God's Divine Nature
- 5. Paul called the people to repentance
- 6. Paul preached about Jesus, the Righteous Judge and His resurrection

We are not suggesting that you do this on social media or over the internet. But rather that this would be expressed in real relationships with people! The core of Paul's strategy to tear idols down in his day was preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

1 Cor. 2:1-5 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. **2** For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. **3** I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. **4** And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power

The Devil may want our worship but we must be convinced that Jesus alone is worthy of our worship! When we commit to giving our lives to Jesus and worshiping Him alone we experience His promises!

Jesus alone offers true hope and true fulfillment. We must learn to be motivated by the rewards He promises to those who press on in the faith and holdfast to the end

Rev. 2:24-25 "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. **25** But hold fast what you have till I come. **26** And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—, **27** as I also have received from My Father;

Altar call:

- Freedom from idolatry
- Boldness and grace to tear down idolatry with Jesus

Pastor Clayton will pray into the altar call