

05.02.10 **Idols Run Deep**

- Ezekiel 14:3-4— "Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of iniquity before their faces. Should I indeed let myself be consulted by them? Therefore, speak to them and say, Thus says the Lord God: Anyone of the house of Israel who takes his idols into his heart and sets the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and yet comes to the prophet, I the Lord will answer him as he comes with the multitude of his idols, that I may lay hold of the hearts of the house of Israel, who are all estranged from me through their idols."
- Estranged Hearts:
  - We shape idols to meet our needs!
  - We create gods that don't require submission!
  - We end up like them.
- Foundations:
  - We are made to WORSHIP!
  - We WORSHIP what it is that we VALUE!
- "I thought of it [praise] in terms of compliment, approval, or the giving of honor. I have never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise. The world rings with praise- lovers praising their mistresses, readers their favorite poet, walkers praising the country side, players praising their favorite game-- praise of weather, wines, dishes, actors..."
- "The Psalmist in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about. My whole, more general, difficulty about the praise of God depended on my absurdly denying to us, as regards the supremely valuable, what we delight to do, what indeed we can't help doing, about everything else we value. I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation!" -C.S. Lewis
- Romans 1:20-25— "For His invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived; ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So that they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen."

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- Conviction & Inversion:  
CONVICTION #1: If God created LIFE- He gets to DEFINE it!  
INVERSION #1: If we create GOD- We get to DEFINE Him!
- No Other Gods:  
Idolatry is creating “god on your terms.”
- On Our Terms:  
Our demand to have “god on your terms” comes from our desire to be saved!