

## Deuteronomy 4:15-43 (NKJV) - IDOLATRY

Lester Fountain, Elder Grace Chapel, Orange, CA August 27, 2017

### Introduction:

The darkness of man's heart - Rom 1:18-25

The foolishness of idolatry - Isa 44:6-20

God so loved the world - Jn 3:13-17 cp Mt 28:18-20

### Beware of Idolatry: (Paul at Lystra - Acts 14:8-18 [Zeus and Hermes ] and the Areopagus 17:16-29)

<sup>15</sup> "Take careful heed to yourselves, for you saw no form when the LORD spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, <sup>16</sup> lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure:

-the likeness of male or female,

- <sup>17</sup> the likeness of any animal that *is* on the earth

-or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air,

-<sup>18</sup> the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground

-or the likeness of any fish that *is* in the water beneath the earth.

- <sup>19</sup> And *take heed*, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and *when* you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven,

you feel driven to worship them and serve them,

### A reason for creation: (The Creator our Lord - Col 1:16-18)

which the LORD your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage.

- Gen 1:1 (Created all), v26 (All creation have dominion over).

### Warning concerning Idolatry: (1 Cor 10:14-22 - Idolatry related to Demons)

<sup>20</sup> But the LORD has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be His people, an inheritance, as you are this day. <sup>21</sup> Furthermore the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, and swore that I would not cross over the Jordan, and that I would not enter the good land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance. <sup>22</sup> But I must die in this land, I must not cross over the Jordan; but you shall cross over and possess that good land. <sup>23</sup> Take heed to yourselves, lest you forget the covenant of the LORD your God which He made with you, and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of anything which the LORD your God has forbidden you. <sup>24</sup> For the LORD your God *is* a consuming fire, a jealous God.

### Each Generation must pass on the knowledge: (Col 1:24-29 - Teaching every man in all wisdom)

<sup>25</sup> "When you beget children and grandchildren and have grown old in the land, and act corruptly and make a carved image in the form of anything, and do evil in the sight of the LORD your God to provoke Him to anger, <sup>26</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that you will soon utterly perish from the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong *your* days in it, but will be utterly destroyed. <sup>27</sup> And the LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD will drive you. <sup>28</sup> And there you will serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell.

**No Generation is exempt for His Grace: (The body of the Gospel teaching is for the Body of Christ.)**

<sup>29</sup> But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find *Him* if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. <sup>30</sup> When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, when you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice <sup>31</sup> (for the LORD your God *is* a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.

**You are very special to the God of the universe: (Rom 8:29-35 - Predestined, Called, Justified, Glorified.)**

<sup>32</sup> “For ask now concerning the days that are past, which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and *ask* from one end of heaven to the other, whether *any* great *thing* like this has happened, or *anything* like it has been heard. :

-<sup>33</sup> Did *any* people *ever* hear the voice of God speaking out of the midst of the fire, as you have heard, and live?

-<sup>34</sup> Or did God *ever* try to go *and* take for Himself a nation from the midst of *another* nation, by trials, by signs, by wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes?

**How the God of the Universe demonstrated this “specialness” He has for you: (Eph Chps 1-3)**

<sup>35</sup> To you it was shown,:

- that you might know that the LORD Himself *is* God; *there is* none other besides Him.

-<sup>36</sup> Out of heaven He let you hear His voice, that He might instruct you;

-on earth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire.

-<sup>37</sup> And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; -

and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power,

-<sup>38</sup> driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land *as* an inheritance, as *it is* this day.

**Loving Encouragement and Admonishment : (The Lord’s prayer of John 17)**

<sup>39</sup> Therefore know this day, and consider *it* in your heart, that the LORD Himself *is* God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; *there is* no other. <sup>40</sup> You shall therefore keep His statutes and His commandments which I command you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may prolong *your* days in the land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time.”

**God always keeps it real “Cities of Refuge East of the Jordan”: (Psa 88)**

<sup>41</sup> Then Moses set apart three cities on this side of the Jordan, toward the rising of the sun, <sup>42</sup> that the manslayer might flee there, who kills his neighbor unintentionally, without having hated him in time past, and that by fleeing to one of these cities he might live: <sup>43</sup> Bezer in the wilderness on the plateau for the Reubenites, Ramoth in Gilead for the Gadites, and Golan in Bashan for the Manassites.