

KINGS NORTON BAPTIST CHURCH

*Sunday 21st September 2025 10 am*

Holiness and worldliness – *Don't mix it!*

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Welcome Psalm 54:6, 52:9  
Hymn MP 1227 The Splendour of the King  
Scripture Psalm 66 (page 581)  
Prayer  
Children's talk Oil and water do not mix  
Chorus MP 11 All Hail King Jesus  
MP 601 Sing alleluia to the Lord  
....  
Notices: Masfield progress, prayer sheet.  
Tudor House on Wednesday week  
Harvest Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
Fellowship lunch next Sunday  
Mission focus Ina  
Prayer time & Lord's prayer  
Reading 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 (page 1151)  
2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (page 1161)  
& 11:3-4  
Ezekiel 14:1-8, 20:7-9 (page 840)  
Hymn MP 458 Man of sorrow what a  
Name  
Sermon *Don't mix it!*  
Hymn MP 1072 In Christ alone  
Prayer  
Close

*Prayer*

The Jesus Army, which became the Jesus Fellowship, started in the 70s in a church in the village of Bugbrooke, Northamptonshire. Their leader Rev Noel Stanton citing Acts 2:44 called the believers to sell their homes and possessions and live together in community houses. This movement grew and spread across the Midlands. However, it was not long before there was legalism, heavy shepherding, sexual immorality and the idolisation of their charismatic leader. What had started as a mainstream Baptist Church - became a cult. The true view of God had been replaced with a wrong view of God. The corrupting oil of error cannot mix with the water of truth.

國王諾頓浸信會

2025年9月21日，星期日，上午10點  
聖潔與世俗一切勿混為一談！

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歡迎詞：詩篇 54:6, 52:9  
聖詩 MP 1227：君王的榮耀  
經文：詩篇 66篇（頁581）  
禱告  
兒童講座：油水不相容  
副歌 MP 11：萬歲，君王耶穌  
MP 601：向主唱阿利路亞...  
通知：梅斯菲爾德教堂的進展，禱告單張。  
週三在都鐸故居  
10月12日豐收主日  
下週日團契午餐  
宣教焦點：Ina  
禱告時間及主禱文  
誦讀哥林多前書 10:14-22（頁1151）  
哥林多後書 6:14-18（頁1161）及 11:3-4  
以西結書 14:1-8, 20:7-9（頁840）  
聖詩 MP 458 憂傷之人，何等聖名  
講道：不要混淆！  
聖詩 MP 1072 唯獨在基督裡  
禱告  
結束

禱告

耶穌軍，即後來的耶穌團契，始於70年代北安普敦郡布格布魯克村的一座教堂。他們的領袖諾埃爾·斯坦頓牧師引用使徒行傳2:44，呼籲信徒賣掉房屋和財物，在社區房屋裡共同生活。這場運動發展壯大，席捲了英國中部地區。然而，不久之後，律法主義、繁重的牧養、性不道德以及對他們這位魅力非凡的領袖的偶像崇拜就出現了。這個原本主流的浸信會教會，最終淪為異端。對上帝的正確看法被錯誤的觀點所取代。謬誤的敗壞之油無法與真理之水相濡以沫。  
□「不要試圖攪雜」是這篇講道的標題。“不要試圖攪雜”  
我們繼續研讀哥林多前書第10章，現在來到14至22節。

➤ **‘Don’t try to mix it’ is the title of the sermon.**  
**‘Don’t try to mix it’**

As we continue with 1 Corinthians chapter 10 we now come to v14 to 22.

In the first part of the chapter Paul is addressing the problem of idolatry, not amongst the unbelievers, - but amongst the Christians at Corinth. They were following those around them in eating meat known to have been sacrificed to idols. They failed to see that the ways of the world do not mix with living as a Christian. The Lord, in calling us to be a Holy, separated people expects us to leave our old ways behind. The Christians in Corinth needed to be told that worldliness and Godliness don’t mix, the two are incompatible, they’re at odds with each. We mustn’t mix them together.

Paul makes the point by warning them about this from the OT. We must all read the OT. If you are a Christian, you must read the OT. Do you? Paul takes them back to time when they had just been rescued from slavery in Egypt and were in the wilderness. God had done a great work of saving His people to be Holy and separate. But they had not left their old ways behind them. They had been saved to please him –

but in fact they were displeasing him v5. **The warning here is that it is possible to be saved, but still live as if not saved.** To follow the world’s ways is to be an idolator, and an idolator is an enemy of God. **‘Beware of idolatry’** Paul warns the Christians in Corinth v7 **do not be idolators as some of them were.**

➤ **The church in the NT is being warned from the church in the OT.**

Now at v14 the message is the same **‘Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry’**. Paul then proceeds to show them just how wrong it is for a Christian.

**7 The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.**

Do you remember the time when they made an idol in the form of a golden calf?

Moses had remained up the mountain longer than they expected so they decided to take a calf made of gold from the people’s jewellery and then bow down to it. They were trying to worship the true God - their way, it was a carnal way, unholy, with food, drink and revelry. This was not reverential worship towards a Holy God, no, this was not spiritual worship, but carnal worship - and therefore not worship at all.

在本章的第一部分，保羅討論的不是非信徒中的偶像崇拜問題，而是哥林多基督徒中的偶像崇拜問題。他們隨波逐流，吃祭偶像之物。他們沒有意識到，世俗的生活與基督徒的生活格格不入。主呼召我們成為聖潔、分別為聖的子民，期望我們拋棄舊有的生活方式。哥林多的基督徒需要被告知，世俗與敬虔不可混為一談，兩者互不相容，彼此衝突。我們絕不能將它們混為一談。

保羅引用舊約聖經來警告他們這一點。我們都必須讀舊約。如果你是基督徒，就必須讀舊約。你讀過嗎？保羅帶他們回到他們剛從埃及的奴役中被拯救出來，在曠野的時代。神行了偉大的工作，拯救祂的子民，使他們成為聖潔、分別為聖。

但他們並沒有拋棄舊約。他們得救是為了討神喜悅——但事實上，他們使他不悅（第5節）。這裡的警告是，人有可能得救，但生活卻像未得救一樣。追隨世俗的生活方式就是拜偶像，而拜偶像就是神的敵人。「要防備偶像崇拜」保羅警告哥林多的基督徒（第7節），不要像他們中的一些人那樣拜偶像。

□ 新約中的教會正受到舊約教會的警告。

現在，在第14節，信息是一樣的：「所以，我親愛的朋友們，你們要逃避偶像崇拜」。保羅繼續向他們指出，基督徒這樣做是多麼錯誤。

7 於是眾人坐下吃喝，起來狂歡。

你們還記得他們造金牛犢的情景嗎？

摩西在山上停留的時間比他們預期的要長，所以他們決定從眾人的首飾中取出一頭金牛犢，然後向它下拜。他們試圖敬拜真神——但他們的方式是屬肉體的、不聖潔的，充斥著吃喝玩樂。這不是對聖神的虔誠敬拜，不，這不是屬靈的敬拜，而是屬肉體的敬拜——因此根本就不是敬拜。

我有時聽到人們談到他們的教會時說：「我們週日的敬拜很精彩。」我立刻想到：「不知道上帝對此作何感想？」這是否屬靈，是否討祂喜悅？還是只是屬肉體的，只注重音樂，試圖營造氛圍，吸引感官——這是基督教敬拜的現代扭曲。

在曠野中，屬肉體的敬拜滑向了性不道德，第8節說，他們試探主的忍耐，就發怨言。上帝憎惡怨言，因為怨言與愛上帝和信靠上帝背道而馳。正是這種對上帝的卑劣不滿，正是魔鬼在伊甸園中播撒在夏娃心中的種子。他對她說：「上帝不夠好」x2。

I sometimes hear people say of their church, 'we had a great time of worship on Sunday'. My immediate thought is 'I wonder what God thought of it?' was it spiritual and pleasing to Him? or was it carnal, about the music, trying to generate an atmosphere, and appeal to the senses – this is a modern day distortion of Christian worship.

The carnal worship in the desert slipped into **sexual immorality**, v8, they **tried** the patience of the Lord, and they **grumbled**. God hates grumbling because grumbling is the opposite of loving and trusting God. It is that same base dissatisfaction with God that the devil sowed in the heart of Eve in the garden of Eden. He was saying to her 'God is not enough' x2.

We looked at all this on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025. Serious stuff.

**The judgment that came on them is a warning for us.** As Deuteronomy 32:16 says: **They provoked him to jealousy with strange gods, with abominations provoked they him to anger.** We are not to do what they did'. So Paul tells the Christians '*don't do that*' **flee from idolatry** '*don't do it*'.

Maybe at this point you are asking "what actually is idolatry?"

In the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment God says: '**have no other God before me**'.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment we are told not to make an image of anything and bow down to it. In other words, anything that is put in the place of God is an idol. In Romans 1 Paul tells us that we all, as fallen people, **exchange the Glory of God** - the truth of God for something else.

As image bearers of God we all worship something – But every time the true God is not worshipped as He should be – then an idol is worshipped

***Idolatry is what the world does***

Another word here is the word 'pagan'. We had **pagan revelry** v7, and v20 speaks of the **sacrifices of pagans**, and it occurs in other places as well.

When we hear the word 'pagan' you may well think of pagan England many centuries ago before Christianity took hold. **Your mind goes to Stonehenge or other sites and centres of pagan worship.** It is seen as a word for then, not for now.

Today to those who are not Christian, those who do not profess to follow Jesus, we would say they are 'unbelievers' we don't call them pagans, it

我們在2025年8月24日審視了這一切。這是一件嚴肅的事情。

降臨到他們身上的審判對我們來說是一個警告。

正如申命記32:16所說：“他們以別神惹耶和華的憤恨，以可憎惡的神惹他發怒。我們不可效法他們所行的。”所以保羅告訴基督徒“不可作這樣的事”，要遠離偶像崇拜，“不可作這樣的事”。

也許此刻你會問：“偶像崇拜到底是什麼？”

在第一條誡命中，上帝說：“在我以外，不可有別的神。”

在第二誡命中，上帝告訴我們不可為任何物造像，也不可向它下拜。換句話說，任何取代上帝的東西都是偶像。在羅馬書第一章中，保羅告訴我們，我們所有人，身為墮落的人，都用別的東西取代了上帝的榮耀——上帝的真理。

身為上帝形象的承載者，我們每個人都崇拜某些事物——但每當真神沒有得到應有的敬拜時，偶像就會被崇拜。

偶像崇拜是世人所為。

這裡的另一個字是「異教徒」。第7節提到了異教徒的狂歡，第20節提到了異教徒的獻祭，其他地方也出現了類似的情況。

當我們聽到「異教徒」這個詞時，你很可能會想到幾個世紀前基督教尚未盛行的異教英格蘭。你會想到巨石陣或其他異教崇拜的場所和中心。這個字被視為當時的代名詞，而非現在的代名詞。

如今，對於那些非基督徒，那些不自稱追隨耶穌的人，我們會稱他們為“不信者”，我們不會稱他們為異教徒，因為這似乎是一個貶義詞，我們也不會稱我們的鄰居為“異教徒”。

翻譯為「異教徒」的字是ethnos；源自「一個種族」或國家，與以色列不同，即非猶太人。它通常被翻譯為“外邦人”或“國家”，在我們的聖經中，它被11次翻譯為“異教徒”。

如今，我們傾向於思考那些崇拜和不崇拜的人。你可能會說，我們屬於一個「崇拜群體」。在那個年代，每個人都公開地崇拜某些東西，但如今我們不再這樣看待它。大多數從這些牆外走過的人並不這麼認為。這就是為什麼我們不喜歡用「異教徒」或「異教徒」這個詞來形容他們。



seems a derogatory term, nor do we speak of our neighbours as 'heathen'.

The word translated pagan is *ethnos*; from 'a race' or nation as distinct from Israel, i.e non jews. Often translated as 'gentile' or 'nation' it occurs 11 times as 'pagan' in our Bibles.

Today we tend to think of those who worship and those who don't. You might say we are part of a 'worshipping community'. In those days everyone openly worshipped something, today we don't see it that way. Most walking past outside these walls don't see it that way. That is why we don't like to use the term pagan or heathen to describe them.

As I said the truth is that everyone worships something, you and I we were made that way. The object of our worship may not be a lump of painted wood or stone, but everyone has an object of worship.

- **Hindus are open about their idols of painted wood, stone, metal carved or moulded to represent their various deities. Hinduism is a catchall religion of idol worship. Each idol had their own specialism as did the Greek gods, gods of war, or fertility, or travel, or the sea, these became with name changes the Roman gods.**
- **Roman Catholics have their relics, Mary, the departed saints. Along the road in RC countries are shrines to Mary and crucifixes. How many people have a 'saint Christophers' around their neck the patron saint of travel. It is all pretty close to the surface. In Britain many follow their 'stars', and while people declare themselves as 'not religious' there's huge turning to mediums, mysticism, spiritism. You recycle your clothing in the bin sponsored by the gaia movement, gaia being the Greek goddess and personification of the Earth, the Mother Goddess from whom all life and the gods are descended.**

Bring the Gospel of Christ and the error of idol worship is replaced with true worship. One removes the other.

In countries not reached by the gospel of Jesus you find idol worship, the worship of the sun, or the rain, or the trees, mountains, rivers, etc., every thing that the locals look to - to help them live a happy prosperous life.

The worship of the true creator God is given over to the worship of created things, inanimate objects that are given a life and made into idols.

- **On holiday large motorcycles were everywhere. You could see the owners were very proud of them. Their clothing matched their bike, it all defined who they were.**

正如我所說，事實是每個人都崇拜某種東西，你和我，我們生來就是這樣。我們崇拜的對象可能不是一塊塗漆的木頭或石頭，但每個人都有崇拜的對象。

□ 印度教徒公開承認他們的偶像，這些偶像是用塗漆的木頭、石頭、金屬雕刻或模塑而成，用來代表他們各自的神。印度教是一個包羅萬象的偶像崇拜宗教。每個偶像都有各自的專長，就像希臘諸神一樣，戰神、生育之神、旅行之神或海洋之神，這些神祇後來改名成為羅馬諸神。

□ 羅馬天主教徒有他們的聖髑，包括瑪利亞和已故聖人。在羅馬天主教國家，沿途有瑪利亞的聖地和十字架。有多少人脖子上掛著「聖克里斯多福」——旅行的守護神？這一切都只是表面現象。在英國，許多人追隨他們的“星座”，雖然有人宣稱自己“不信教”，但很多人卻轉向靈媒、神秘主義和招魂術。你把衣服丟進蓋亞運動贊助的垃圾桶回收，蓋亞是希臘女神，是大地的化身，是所有生命和眾神都起源於她的母神。

帶來基督的福音，偶像崇拜的錯誤就會被真正的崇拜取代。兩者相輔相成。

在耶穌福音尚未傳到的國家，你會發現偶像崇拜，對太陽、雨水、樹木、山脈、河流等等的崇拜，以及當地人所仰望的一切——幫助他們過上幸福富足的生活。

對真正的造物主上帝的崇拜，被賦予了對受造物的崇拜，這些無生命的物體被賦予了生命，並被塑造成偶像。

□ 假日裡，大型摩托車隨處可見。你看得出來，車主們對它們非常自豪。他們的服裝與摩托車相配，這一切都定義了他們的身份。當他們看著自己的摩托車時，你可以看出他們是多麼自豪。他們賦予它某種東西，對他們來說，它不僅僅是金屬。任何偶像也是如此，我們賦予它，賦予它一些額外的東西……我在其中找到了自己的影子。

□ 這就是廣告的意義所在，所有那些快樂滿足的人，為什麼呢？他們之所以如此，是因為他們擁有的，或正在做的事情。

□ 多年前，對我來說，除了其他東西之外，那當然是一輛摩托車。你呢？是你的“行頭”，那些珠寶？還是你的家，你的家人？是你駕駛的金屬，或是你手上拿的金屬，還是人們對你的看法？你的形象？

When they looked at their bikes you could see how proud they were. They attributed something to it, to them it was more than just metal. So it is with any idol, we give it, we attribute to it something extra, .. I find something of me 'in it'.

- That is what advertising is all about, all those happy fulfilled people, why? They are so because of whatever it is they have, or are doing.
- For me years ago it was certainly a motorcycle, amongst other things. How about you? Is it your 'outfit', that jewelry? Or your home, or family? the metal you drive around in, or hold in your hand, or is it how people view you?, your image?

Do you give these 'things' these objects or ideas a life in themselves?

The people said to each other of the inanimate object, that metal calf they had made: **"this is your god"** Ex 32:4

There is a power there, people who worship these things are very convinced about it, this power is Satan's power. He works through his agents, fallen angels, demons. In Revelation 13 we are told there is a beast of the earth who promotes the religions of the earth.

So when someone worships an object, - he is bowing down to a demon. He doesn't realise this of course, he thinks it's God. He really believes it.

Paul in Athens saw the Greeks worshipped an 'unknown God'. **To be ignorant of their object of reverence implies too an ignorance as to how to worship. As Calvin rightly observed "whosoever worships god without any certainty, worships his own inventions instead of God"**

In your worship here this morning do you 'know' the God you are bowing down to? For some here things are not clear, and you wish they were.

- Facing a parking meter in Italy with everything in Italian left me confused. But then I found the language option button. Suddenly all made sense, it became completely clear.

So with Jesus the Holy Son from Heaven.

As God - he is the true revealer of God, He said **if you see me, you see the father** John 14

He is the opener of blind eyes, he only can remove the veil, He only can enable you **to see him who is invisible**. Heb 11:27. If you haven't already - will you look to him this morning? Look to him and the cross, see how he suffered, see how he bore sin and is willing to forgive you of all those years of idol worship, looking to things, to people, to

您是否賦予這些「事物」、這些物體或想法生命？

人們彼此談論著他們所造的那無生命之物，那隻金牛犢：「這是你們的神」（出 32:4）。

那裡有一股力量，崇拜這些東西的人對此深信不疑，這股力量就是撒旦的力量。他透過他的代理人——墮落天使和魔鬼——來運作。啟示錄 13 章告訴我們，地上有一頭野獸，它宣揚地上的宗教。

所以，當一個人崇拜一個物體時，他就是在向魔鬼跪拜。他當然沒有意識到這一點，他以為那是神。他真的相信了。

保羅在雅典看到希臘人崇拜一位「未知的神」。對他們所崇敬的對像一無所知，也意味著對如何崇拜一無所知。正如加爾文所說：“凡毫無把握地敬拜神的，就是敬拜自己的虛構，而不是敬拜神。”

在你們今早的敬拜中，你們「認識」你們所敬拜的神嗎？對某些人來說，事情並不清晰，你希望事情清晰。

□ 在義大利，面對著停車計時器，所有資訊都是義大利語，這讓我感到困惑。但後來我找到了語言選項按鈕。突然間，一切都明白了，一切都變得清晰明了。

耶穌，這位來自天上的聖子也是如此。

身為神—祂是神真正的啟示者，祂說，如果你看見我，你就看見了父（約翰福音 14 章）。

他是開瞎子眼睛的，唯有他能除去帕子，唯有他能使你看見那不能看見的。希伯來書 11:27。如果你還沒有——你今天早上願意仰望祂嗎？仰望祂和十字架，看看祂是如何受苦，看看祂是如何承擔罪孽，並願意赦免你多年來對偶像的崇拜，看看你對事物、對人和對自己的崇拜。現在是時候離開那些偶像，仰望那位來自天上的兒子了。

離開自我和那些偶像，單單信靠基督，一切都會突然清晰，你會敬拜你所認識的神。只有透過基督和祂在十字架上的死，你才能得到赦免。只有在基督裡，你才能認識神，以蒙神悅納的方式來敬拜祂。這樣，你才能並且會取悅他。

偶像崇拜永遠不適合基督徒—兩者不可混為一談！

yourself. Now is the time to turn from those idols and look to the Son who can from Heaven.

Turn from self and those idols and trust in Christ alone, and all will suddenly be clear, you will worship the God you know. Only through Christ and his death on a cross, can forgiveness come to you. Only in Christ can you be brought to know God, and therefore worship him acceptably. Then you can and will please Him.

***Idolatry is never for the Christian – they do not mix!***

It is possible to be here this morning, to sing the songs, to read the scriptures to engage in worship, and yet actually have your heart elsewhere. Christ and the cross are before you and yet your allegiance is elsewhere. To worship with your lips only - is to worship Christ in vain.

This is what they were doing in Ezekiel 14 they had **'set up'** an idol in their heart. An alternative. Have you **'set up'** something in your heart?

Something you look to for your happiness and fulfilment, is it in comfort? Is it security in a strong bank balance?, is it value through other people?

What is it for you? True happiness, security and value are found only in a right standing with God. That was lost in the garden of Eden. But it can be restored in Jesus. For this we were made – but if you don't have God's love in Jesus - all that is left is a substitute, an idol. Not objects of wood and stone but idols in the heart.

Remember Paul is addressing Christians here. It is possible to sing **"Jesus is Lord"** and yet refuse to live under his Lordship. There are some like that. I am constantly checking myself in this. Do I have love for Him above all else? Do I truly love my brothers and sisters in the Lord? I cannot profess to love the Lord and yet not love His people. That is why Paul warns in the next chapter those who ate the Lord's supper, took the bread and the cup and yet at the same time did not recognise the body of the Lord, his church. Ask yourself "do I love the person next to me?" If the answer is no then to take the bread and the cup is to eat and drink judgment on yourself. **16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.**

So it was in the OT **18 Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar?** As with them so now as

你今天早上可能來到這裡，唱歌、讀經、敬拜，但你的心在別處。基督和十字架就在你面前，而你的效忠卻在別處。只用嘴唇敬拜—就是徒然敬拜基督。

這就是他們在以西結書14章所做的，他們在心中「設立」了一個偶像。另一種選擇。你有沒有在心中「設立」了什麼？

你尋求幸福和滿足的東西，是舒適嗎？是雄厚的銀行存款帶來的安全感嗎？是透過他人獲得的價值嗎？

這對你來說是什麼？真正的幸福、安全和價值只有在與神正確相處時才能找到。而這在伊甸園裡已經迷失了。但這可以在耶穌裡得到恢復。我們被造本是為此—但如果你沒有耶穌裡的神的愛—剩下的就只是一個替代品，一個偶像。不是木頭和石頭做的偶像，而是心中的偶像。

記住，保羅在這裡是對基督徒說的。你有可能一邊唱著“耶穌是主”，一邊卻拒絕活在祂的主權之下。有些人就是這樣。我不斷在這方面省察自己。我是否愛祂勝過一切？我是否真的愛我在主裡的弟兄姊妹？我不能口稱愛主，卻不愛祂的子民。這就是為什麼保羅在下一章警告那些吃了主的晚餐、領了餅和杯，卻同時不認識主的身體—祂的教會的人。問問自己：「我愛我身邊的人嗎？」如果答案是否定的，那麼拿起餅和杯就是吃喝自己的審判。16 我們所祝謝的杯，豈不是同領基督的血嗎？我們所擘開的餅，豈不是同領基督的身體嗎？17 我們雖多，仍是一個餅，一個身體，因為我們都是分受這一個餅。舊約也是如此。18 你們看以色列人，吃祭物的，豈不是在祭壇上有分嗎？他們怎樣，如今作基督徒的，也不可與不潔淨的敬拜攙雜。邪術的油不能與潔淨的敬拜攙雜。19 這樣，我豈是說祭偶像的食物算什麼呢？偶像算什麼呢？20 不然，外邦人的祭是獻給鬼魔的，不是獻給神的。我不願意你們與鬼魔有分。

以色列人敬拜金牛犢，是對上帝的錯誤看法。

審判降臨，是因為他們試圖同時做兩件事：一是參與主，二是參與另一個祭壇，這個祭壇並非屬於上帝，而是屬於地上的、世俗的，因此也是屬於魔鬼的。

聖經四次告訴我們，我們的行為意味著我們「參與」x2。



Christians we must not mix in impure worship. The oil of error does not mix with pure worship. 19 **Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything?** 20 **No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons.**

In worshipping the golden calf the Israelites had a wrong view of God.

The judgment came because they were trying to do two things at once, participate in the Lord, and at the same time participate at another altar, an altar that is not of God but earthly, worldly, therefore of the devil.

Four times we are told that our actions mean we **'participate'** x2,

There was a retired minister in Lichfield Donald Davis who gave his time to hospitality. He would take in younger Christians and treat them in his home to lunch, then a walk and talk, and finish with a time of prayer. It was really uplifting, there was a unity, a oneness in that rich fellowship. He named his house 'koinonia' which means 'fellowship'.

The word **participate** is 'koinonia' x2. when we take of the cup we are 'fellowshipping' with the Lord - and with each other.

21 **You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons.**

Don't mix the two, they don't mix, you cannot mix them. Jesus said you cannot serve two masters, God and mammon, or God and money, representative of all things worldly.

John tells us **'do not love the world, or anything in the world'** 1 John 2:15

Let us **remember Lot's wife** who looked back and turned into a pillar of salt. And why did she look back? It is because she loved the world.

Beware of worldly cravings, how often is our conversation filled with the things of this world, what **Spurgeon calls the unholy trinity of food, drink and clothing**. Pagans run after these things, and our loving Father knows we need them. But seek Christ above all and he will take care of the rest. Beware lest sins creep in, a sin of old age is to love our food.

Do not let you heart be drawn, do not live with hearts filled with the things of this world, that is how we once lived, not now. If you profess the Lordship of Christ then there must be a forsaking of the worlds ways. No praise and worship will be accepted by the true God when my mind is on earthly things.

利奇菲爾德有一位退休牧師，名叫唐納德·戴維斯，他把時間花在款待客人上。他會接待年輕的基督徒，請他們到自己家中吃午飯，然後一起散步、聊天，最後以禱告結束。這真的令人振奮，在這種豐富的團契中，充滿了合一和合一。他給自己的房子取名為“koinonia”，意思是“團契”。

「參與」這個字的意思是「koinonia」x2。當我們舉起杯時，我們是在與主「團契」—也是彼此「團契」。

21 你們不能又喝主的杯，又喝鬼的杯；你不能既在主的餐桌上，又在鬼的餐桌上。

不要混淆這兩者，它們不能混淆，你不能混淆它們。耶穌說你不能事奉兩個主，神和瑪門，或神和金錢，代表一切世俗之物。

約翰告訴我們「不要愛世界和世界上的事」（約翰一書 2:15）。

讓我們記得羅得的妻子，她回頭一看，就變成了鹽柱。她為什麼回頭看？因為她愛這個世界。

要警惕世俗的慾望，我們的談話常常充滿了這個世界的東西，司布真稱之為食物、飲料和衣服的邪惡三位一體。異教徒追求這些東西，我們慈愛的天父知道我們需要它們。但要先尋求基督，祂會照顧其餘的一切。要警惕罪惡的侵襲，貪愛食物是老人的罪。

不要讓你的心被世俗所吸引，不要活在充滿世俗之物的中心。我們曾經如此，但現在不同了。如果你承認基督的主權，就必須離棄世俗之道。當我的心思意念世俗之事時，任何讚美和敬拜都不會被真神接納。

偶像崇拜是對聖神的冒犯，必須悔改。

保羅不得不寫信給哥林多的基督徒，談到這一點，令人遺憾的是，在第二封信的結尾，許多人仍然沒有遠離世俗之道。雅各說：「你們這行淫的人哪，豈不知與世俗為友就是恨神嗎？」這番話太過分了。他接著又說：「凡想與世俗為友的，就是與神為敵了。」雅各書 4:4-5

正如雅各所說，我以基督徒的身份跟你們說話，不要讓事情溜走，很容易養成世俗行為的習慣和模式。罪就像一條小路或小徑，我們會掉進去，就像那些我們一不小心就會掉進去，並把我們困在那裡的車轍。

***Idolatry is an offense to a Holy god and must be repented of***

Paul had to write to the Christians in Corinth about this, sadly at the end of the second letter a number had not turned away from the world's ways. James says **Your adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred towards God?** Strong language. He then goes on again to say **anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God** James 4:4,5

As with James I am talking to you as a Christian, do not let things slip, it is very easy to get into habits and patterns of worldly behaviour. Sin is like a path or track that we fall back into, like those ruts that we slip into and that keep us there.

- I remember being with a friend and riding my motorcycle along Sharpness docks years ago. There were railway lines sunk into the concrete. I was not careful to avoid them and my front wheel slipped into it, I found it took control and forced me to follow along its path. I could not escape or wrestle out of it, and it wasn't long before I was fetched off.

I should have crossed it square on and then I would have been safe. Do not line up with sin, if you do you will find it easy to slip into it and be caught. Avoid the traps, beware of your weak points, where you are vulnerable.

Will you commit, will you re-commit and look to the Lord, and to forsake the world? It has nothing for you, it does not love you, give up looking there, you will not regret it. Christ suffered greatly and died terribly on the cross in his love for the Father. Let us as obedient, Christ honouring, humble followers, deny self and take up my cross daily.

This is to live a life of constant repentance and faith. Do this and you can be sure your worship is pleasing and acceptable to God.

- **Flee from idolatry, we cannot mix it in, our worship is to be pure**

**My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I shall never be shaken.**

Ps 62:1-2

**END**

□ 記得幾年前，我和朋友騎著摩托車沿著夏普尼斯碼頭行駛。那裡有鐵路線陷在混凝土裡。我沒有小心避開，前輪滑了進去，我發現它控制了我，強迫我沿著它的路走。我無法逃脫，也無法掙脫，沒多久我就被捲走了。

我應該直接越過它，這樣就安全了。不要與罪為伍，如果你這樣做，你會發現很容易掉進去，被抓住。避開陷阱，小心你的弱點，你容易受傷的地方。

你願意委身嗎？你願意重新委身，仰望主，放棄這個世界嗎？它對你來說一無所有，它不愛你，放棄嚮往，你不會後悔的。基督因著對天父的愛，在十字架上承受了巨大的痛苦，並悲慘地死去。讓我們作為順服、尊崇基督、謙卑的跟隨者，捨己，每日背起我的十字架。

這就是活出不斷悔改和信心的生活。這樣做，你就能確信你的敬拜是蒙神喜悅和悅納的。

□ 遠離偶像崇拜，我們不能沾染偶像，我們的敬拜要純潔。

我的靈魂唯獨在神裡面得安息；我的救恩從他而來。唯獨祂是我的磐石，我的拯救；祂是我的山寨，我必不動搖。詩篇 62:1-2

完