

FA40. Not Worshiping Created Things & Idols of Every Kind.

We are not to worship created things and idols of every kind.

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

Key New Testament Scriptures

Romans 1:22-25

Claiming to be wise, they have become fools! In fact, they have exchanged the glory of the immortal God for mere images, like a mortal human being, or like birds, animals or reptiles! This is why God has given them up to the vileness of their hearts' lusts, to the shameful misuse of each other's bodies. They have exchanged the truth of God for falsehood, by worshipping and serving created things, rather than the Creator- praised be he for ever. Amen.

Colossians 3:5

Therefore, put to death the earthly parts of your nature- sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed (which is a form of idolatry);

Additional New Testament Scriptures

1 Corinthians 10:7, 14

Ephesians 5:5

Hebrews 1:10-12

1 John 5:21

Related New Testament Mitzvot

FA02 Worshiping the One True God and No Other

HA06 Not Worshiping the Beast or His Image

IA06 Abstaining from Things Polluted by idols

VA02 Not Engaging in Idolatry

VA05 Guarding Against False Gods

Supportive Tanakh Scriptures

Exodus 20:3-5

You are to have no other gods before me. You are not to make for yourselves a carved image or any kind of representation of anything in heaven above, on the earth beneath or in the water below the shoreline. You are not to bow down to them or serve them; for I, ADONAI your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sins of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

Exodus 32:8

So quickly they have turned aside from the way I ordered them to follow! They have cast a metal statue of a calf, worshipped it, sacrificed to it and said, 'Isra'el! Here is your god, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!

Exodus 34:17

Do not cast metal gods for yourselves.

Deuteronomy 4:19

For the same reason, do not look up at the sky, at the sun, moon, stars and everything in the sky, and be drawn away to worship and serve them; ADONAI your God has allotted these to all the peoples under the entire sky.

Deuteronomy 6:14

You are not to follow other gods, chosen from the gods of the peoples around you;

Deuteronomy 17:2-5

If there is found among you, within any of your gates [in any city] that ADONAI your God gives you, a man or woman who does what ADONAI your God sees as wicked, transgressing his covenant by going and serving other gods and worshipping them, the sun, the moon, or anything in the sky- something I have forbidden and it is told to you, or you hear about it; then you are to investigate the matter diligently. If it is true, if it is confirmed that such detestable things are being done in Isra'el; then you are to bring the man or woman who has done this wicked thing to your city gates, and stone that man or woman to death.

Isaiah 45:20

Assemble, come and gather together, you refugees from the nations! Those carrying their wooden idols are ignorant, they pray to a god that cannot save.

Jeremiah 7:18

The children gather the wood, the fathers light the fire, and the women knead the dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and, just to provoke me, they pour out drink offerings to other gods!

Habakkuk 1:14-16

You make people like fish in the sea, like reptiles that have no ruler. The evil haul them all up with their hooks, catch them in their fish net, or gather them in their dragnet. Then they rejoice and make merry, offering sacrifices to their fishnet and burning incense to their dragnet; because through them they live in luxury, with plenty of food to eat.

Comment

This *Mitzvah* #FA40 and *Mitzvah* #VA2 are similar but differ in that #FA40 prohibits the worship of idols, whereas #VA2 prohibits idolatry more broadly. The *Tanakh* is replete with Scriptures prohibiting the worship of false gods and physical idols (e.g. manufactured statues)

but Colossians 3:5 is especially interesting in referring to the earthly parts of our nature as idols that we also must not worship. *In New Testament application, anything that is inordinately loved or is a focus of our lives that is out of God's order of loving him and all things rightly in Him, is thus an idol.*

Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2

- I-1 Practicing Idolatry
- I-3 Benefitting from Idolatry
- I-4 Enticing Others to Idolatry
- I-5 Enabling Idolatry
- I-6 Destroying Idolatry
- I-7 Listening to Those Who Would Lead Us toward Idolatry
- I-8 Covenanting with Idolaters and Unbelievers
- I-9 Adopting Heathen Practices