

## UPDATE ON THE TITLE "IDOLS IN OUR HEART" to "IDOLS IN OUR MINDS"

Explanation for the change: I have since understood the use of the word "Heart" is also a trick of Satan, translated wrongly by Latin translators. We do not want to use words that mislead us away from giving God the praise by giving His praise to our own body part.

Since I have written several studies with the word heart, I will not try to correct them all. Please read the new study about the heart for further explanation.

### IDOLS IN OUR MINDS (or thoughts)

Are we overlooking idols in our lives? Does God look at idols as an abomination to Him? Is it actually easy for us to accept idols as a form of worship without recognizing it is blaspheming the true worship of God? Are we, who are being called by God, concerned about not being chosen because we choose to be blinded? Are we too bound by habit to want to change, so we just ignore what we don't want to admit? Do we admit that God actually hates some things that we embrace? Has God changed his mind when He says He hates idolatry? If we are involved in idolatry will God still answer our prayers? Can we set up idols in our hearts? This study is not going to make me a lot of friends, but I feel compelled to post it because it has been on my mind for a long time. This is what God said to men of Israel. Notice the where (and why) of the stumbling block, and how God identifies it. What is the root of their sins, and the results?

Eze 14:3 Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart (mind), and put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them?

4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Every man of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart (mind), and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the LORD will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols;

5 That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart (mind), because they are all estranged from me through their idols.

6 Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Repent, and turn yourselves from your idols; and turn away your faces from all your abominations.

7 For every one of the house of Israel, or of the stranger that sojourneth in Israel, which separateth himself from me, and setteth up his idols in his heart (mind), and putteth the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to a prophet to enquire of him concerning me; I the LORD will answer him by myself:

In ancient times they did not have cameras to take pictures, so they made what they thought represented a God. Today we have cameras to take images of who we think of when we imagine how Jesus looked. Of course different ones think of him as looking different. No one knows what he looked like, but (just as the men in the above scripture) they have set in their heart

(mind, emotion, etc) what they think he may have looked like. Some may even recall their favorite image picture when they think to pray. Of course the picture they have set in their heart (thoughts) always looks handsome, or even beautiful. Now, I know what you might say, "I don't bow down to, or worship my image of Jesus, it is not an idol." Neither did the men God condemned. What did Jesus actually look like?

Isaiah answers: Isa 53:2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him. In other words he was just an average, homely "man of many sorrows" a homely Jew. Had it not been for his miracles and gentleness, women would never have given him a second glance.

Strong's Concordance original Greek language numbers to look up. Isa 53:2 For he shall grow up <05927> (8799) before <06440> him as a tender plant <03126>, and as a root <08328> out of a dry <06723> ground <0776>: he hath no form <08389> nor comeliness <01926>; and when we shall see <07200> (8799) him, there is no beauty <04758> that we should desire <02530> (8799) him. 08389 rat to'ar to'-ar from 08388; TWOT-2491a; n m AV-form 3, goodly 2, beautiful + 03303 2, favoured 2, comely 1, countenance 1, fair + 03303 1, goodly + 02896 1, resembled 1, visage 1; 15 1) shape, form, outline, figure, appearance 02530 dm̄ chamad khaw-mad' a primitive root;

TWOT-673 AV-desire 11, covet 4, delight 2, pleasant 1, beauty 1, lust 1, delectable things 1; 21 1) to desire, covet, take pleasure in, delight in 1a) (Qal) to desire 1b) (Niphal) to be desirable 1c) (Piel) to delight greatly, desire greatly n f 2) desirableness, preciousness.

After we get the original meaning of the Greek words we find that almost no one has this picture in their heart (mind) as to what Jesus actually looked like. Anything else is a false image of the Son of God. After all, if he had wanted us to know what he looked like would he not have given us a realistic description? The morning after he had resurrected he appeared to Mary, she thought he was the caretaker, he looked so average.

Will God honor our prayers when we rebel against His strict command forbidding us to harbor handsome pictures of a false Jesus in our hearts (mind)? If, in the past, God hated idols pictured in our hearts (mind), He still hates them now. Of course there are many other idols we could mention, such as material possessions, celebrating pagan holidays, vanity, money, harmful lusts: smoking, sex, alcohol, bad diets, etc. We do cover some of these topics on our web page foust.info. But for lack of space we will not go into them now. I am not setting myself up as a judge of anyone, but I am concerned that many, in ignorance, are setting up images in their

hearts (mind) without knowing how God feels about it?

To read more information about the HEART there is a detailed study on "[www.foust.info](http://www.foust.info)" on the topic.