

Throughout the Bible, the pure Word of God, we are taught that there is only one God, the Creator of heaven, earth, and the universe.

Additionally, God clearly declared in Ex 20:3-4, “You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth.”

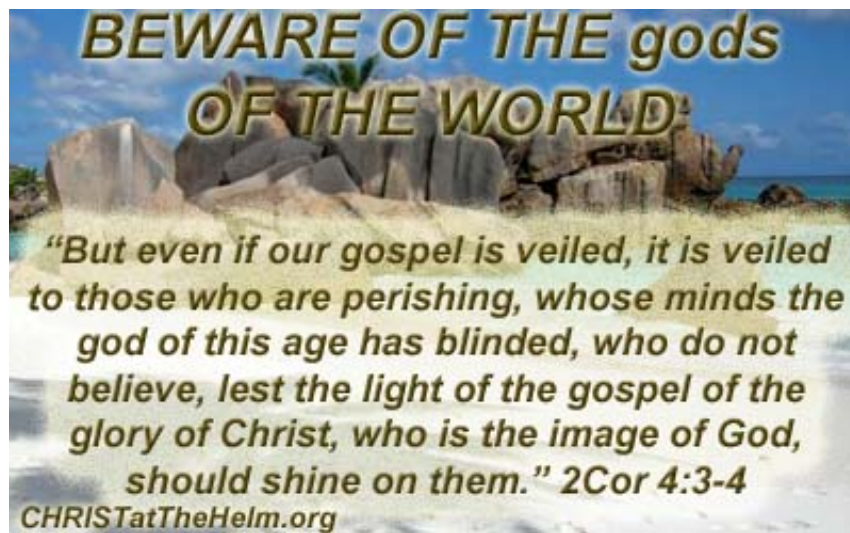
The apostle in John 1:1-3, confirmed God’s Word in the Old Testament that the Savior had come saying, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

Then, why does God say, “You shall have no other gods before Me”, if there is no other God?

Clearly, while there isn’t any other God in the universe, evil hearts choose to follow the rejected archangel from heaven, Satan, who in his pride wanted to make himself God. As such, people follow his path of rebellion in the flesh, thus making their pride and perversions become their little gods.

Will we follow Jesus who declared in John 14:6: “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me”, or the perverted gods of the flesh?

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The gods of this world can be defined as the evil desires of the heart in serving the flesh. The reason Jesus said in Mark 7:21-22, "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness."

In essence, when we choose to serve the flesh rather than honor God, we create little gods that ends up controlling our lives.

The reason as well Paul warned us in 2Tim 3:1-5, "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power."

Where then does the problem lie?

James 4:4: "Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

Do we harbor and serve any gods of the flesh in our hearts, rather than the One and Only True God, through Christ Jesus?

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Pride is a most popular invented god that finds its way throughout our world. People desire recognition, call themselves influencers, are proud of their looks, display sexual attraction, and seek fame and attention. One only has to look at the news to see how proud and perverse our world has become.

Here's what the Word of God says about pride:

Pro 18:2: "A fool has no delight in understanding, but in expressing his own heart."

Pro 26:12: "Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is* more hope for a fool than for him."

Eph 4:17-18: "This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart."

When all is said and done, what part of this life do we take with us in eternity?

Paul said in 1Cor 3:18: "Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise."

In our achievements of life, shouldn't we say "I thank God for giving me the talents and allowing me to accomplish whatever", rather than, "I am proud of my accomplishments"?

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WILL WE ALLOW SEXUAL PERVERSIONS TO BE OUR god?



We live in a world with sexual perversions of all kinds, which could lead to the practices of the Romans in Jesus' time. They had temples of sexual perversions, and even sacrificed children to their demonic gods.

Now, our society thinks itself wiser than God and tells us we don't have to accept God's creation in us as either a man or woman. We're told we can become whoever we desire to follow our sexual perversions, even if it insults our Creator.

Jesus in Mat 19:4 said, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female?'"

Jesus added in verse 5, "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." The reason as well Lev 18:22 says, "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It *is* an abomination."

Why has our world distanced itself so much from God?

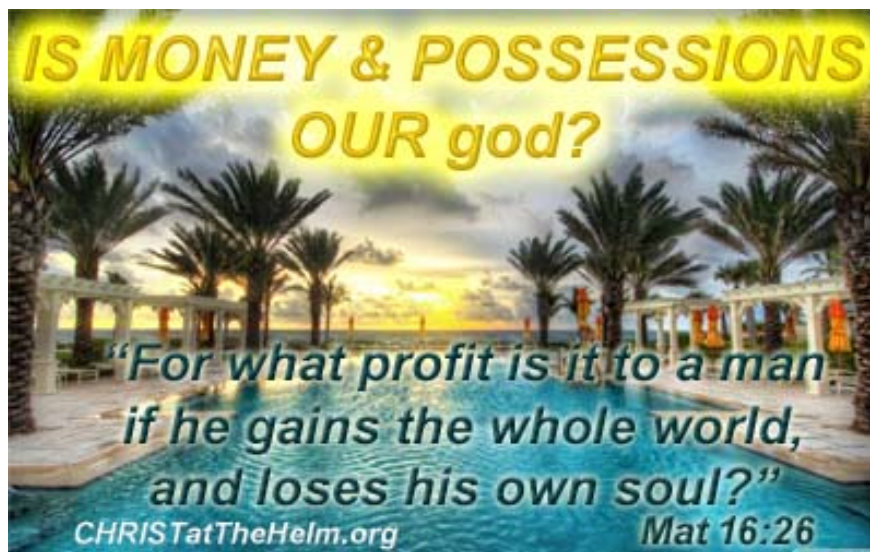
Rom 8:7: "Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

What then should we do?

Col 3:5: "Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

Will we follow God in Christ, or will we let the world's perversions rule our life and become our gods?

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Have we ever seen a hearse pulling a trailer carrying the person's earthly treasures on the way to the cemetery?

Obviously, we all know that we come into this world naked with only the essence of life given to us by God, and will also leave it without anything. In addition, while our bodies will die and decompose, our soul and spirit live forever.

The big question is, which path are we choosing in this life that will determine the direction of our eternal spirit? Will it be with God, or eternally lost?

Jesus in Mat 6:19-21 warned us, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

When we make money and possessions the gods of our life, we only deceive ourselves, as 1Tim 6:10 says, "For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

Jesus in Mat 6:24 clearly said, "You cannot serve both God and money."

Is our life fixated on money and earthly possessions, or is our heart with God and Christ?

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How do we avoid following the gods of this world and ensure we honor and worship the only true God?

1John 2:15-16: "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world."

Rom 12:2: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Col 2:8: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."

1John 4:1: "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

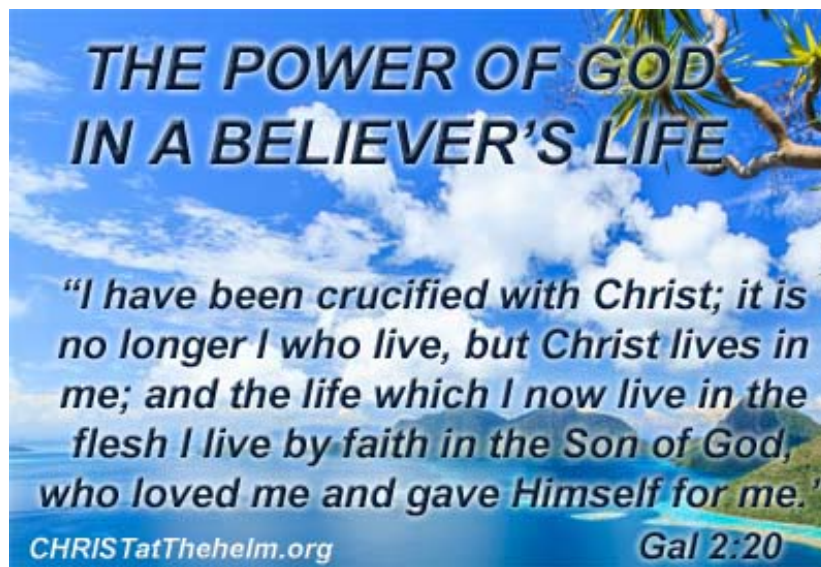
How can we discern?

James 1:5: "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

Finally, wearing the armor of God explained in Eph 6:10-18, equips us to resist the temptations of the world, and stand by Christ and His Word no matter the circumstances.

Will we follow the light of Christ?

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What a glorious blessing we have in Christ, as Gal 2:20 declare that true believers are endowed with His power to live by faith! In fact, in surrendering our lives to follow Christ, we're assured eternal life with God.

Col 1:13-14 says: "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

Eph 2:1-2 adds: "And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience."

What's more? 1John 4:16: "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

Ezek 36:26-27: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*."

Rom 8:6: "To be spiritually minded *is* life and peace."

Finally, Heb 13:6 says, "The LORD *is* my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

Can we say "PRAISE GOD"?

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