

WOC INTERNATIONAL

New Moon 4 Service - May 24, 2020

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz (5780)

Tammuz's theme - "The Dangers of Passive Idolatry"

How does Month 4's topic relate to Month 3's thought Foxes & Month 2's emotional Giants?

The combined work of emotional giants & thought foxes is the source of passive idolatry

What is the primary difference between active and passive idolatry?

Active idolatry is the overt worship of an idol, cult image, statue, or person in place of God

Which results from a person having an intense craving for a visible expression of God

Passive idolatry is the covert acquisition and _____ of forbidden things

Which results from one's extreme admiration for things that are contrary to God

Where does understanding the dangers of "passive idolatry" begin this month?

With realizing passive idolatry is arguably the most pervasive sin among believers today

Passive idolatry is the unseen root of all materialism, egotism, and self-aggrandizement

Materialism - Valuing material possessions and physical comfort more than spirituality

We claim to work to give our kids a better life; but we really want to be successful

Self-aggrandizement - The process of promoting oneself as being powerful or important

Where does understanding the dangers of "passive idolatry" continue?

With realizing why passive idolatry is dangerous to a believer

It makes sinning a _____, rather than painful experience

Heb 11:24-25 "By trusting, Moshe, after he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. 25 He chose being mistreated along with God's people rather than enjoying the passing pleasures of sin." CJB

Where does understanding "passive idolatry" end? - With understanding its main manifestations

1st Manifestation of passive idolatry - _____

The inordinate and illegal desire to possess something that doesn't belong to you

Josh 7:1 "But the people of Isra'el misappropriated some of the goods set aside to be destroyed; for 'Akhan, the son of Karmi, the son of Zavdi, the son of Zerach, of the tribe of Y'hudah, took some of the things reserved for destruction. In consequence, the anger of Adonai blazed up against the people of Isra'el." CJB

Notes

2nd Manifestation of passive idolatry - _____**An obsession with accumulating material goods, money or power**

Luke 12:15 “Then to the people he said, “Be careful to guard against all forms of greed, because even if someone is rich, his life does not consist in what he owns.” CJB

3rd Manifestation of passive idolatry - _____ transgression

Rom 13:14 “Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Yeshua the Messiah; and don’t waste your time thinking about how to provide for the sinful desires of your old nature.” CJB

Notes**What should I already know about the 4th month of Tammuz?****Tammuz is linked to the tribe of Reuben (Jacob’s 1st son and 1st by Leah)**

Reuben marched on the south side of the tabernacle in Group 2 with Simeon and Gad

Tammuz is the first of the summer months (Tammuz, Av & Elul) & its name means “to set on heat”

Tammuz is a time our idolatrous carnal nature is on fire with a desire to _____ evil

Yet, Yahweh tells us to love truth & peace and praise Him in the midst of the fire

Zech 8:18-19 “This word of Adonai-Tzva’ot came to me: 19 “Adonai-Tzva’ot says, ‘The fast days of the fourth, fifth, seventh and tenth months are to become times of joy, gladness and cheer for the house of Y’hudah. Therefore, love truth and peace.’” CJB

What does the Father want me to remember about this 4th month of Tammuz?**A single idolatrous act can radically alter my future and cause me to miss my _____****Note Jacob prophesying Reuben’s bleak future and loss**

Gen 49:3-4 “Re’uven, you are my firstborn, my strength, the firstfruits of my manhood. 4 Though superior in vigor and power you are unstable as water, so your superiority will end, because you climbed into your father’s bed and defiled it – he climbed onto my concubine’s couch!” CJB

What did Reuben do biblically? - He violated his father rights (he uncovered his skirt in KJV)

Deut 23:1 “A man is not to take his father’s wife, thus violating his father’s rights.” CJB (22:30 KJV)

Spreading the skirt signified a husband’s right, authority and obligation to his marriage

Ezek 16:8 ““Again I passed by you, looked at you and saw that your time had come, the time for love. So I spread my cloak over you to cover your private parts and entered into a covenant with you,’ says Adonai Elohim, ‘and you became mine.” CJB

Jacob’s response? - He never slept with Bilhah again because she was unclean to him**Notes**

What new perspectives does the Father want me to have about this 4th month of Tammuz?**Passive idolatry led Korach to rebel against Aaron being Israel's divinely _____ High Priest****His group claimed Yahweh didn't tell Moshe to appoint Aaron - Moshe did it of his own accord****They felt Korach's cousin Elitzafan should be high priest & the rest of them regular priests**

Num 16:9-10 "Is it for you a mere trifle that the God of Isra'el has separated you from the community of Isra'el to bring you close to himself, so that you can do the work in the tabernacle of Adonai and stand before the community serving them? 10 He has brought you close and all your brothers the sons of Levi with you. Now you want the office of cohen too!" CJB

Even though Korach felt justified in his request (they were Levites), what made his act abhorrent?**Was a rebuttal of divine sovereignty that led others to _____ against Yahweh & Moses**

Num 26:9-11 "and the sons of Eli'av: N'mu'el, Datan and Aviram. These are the same Datan and Aviram, men of reputation in the community, who rebelled against Moshe and Aharon in Korach's group, when they rebelled against Adonai; 10 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up together with Korach when that group died, and the fire consumed 250 men, and they became a warning sign. 11 (However, the sons of Korach did not die.)" CJB

Why did Korach's sons not die with their father? - They forsook him and repented**While Datan & Aviram from the tribe of Reuben remained and died with Korach****Notes****What new truths does my Father want me to embrace about the 4th month of Tammuz?****Reuben's passive idolatry led to a transgression that ultimately doomed him and his posterity****Reuben lost all of the rights and benefits given to the eldest son as heritage holder****Reuben should have been the family priest, instead it was given to _____****Reuben should have received a double inheritance, instead it was given to _____**

1 Chron 5:1 "The sons of Re'uven the firstborn of Isra'el – he was the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Yosef the son of Isra'el, though not in such a way as for him to be regarded in the genealogy as the firstborn." CJB

Reuben should have received the family scepter, instead it was given to _____

1 Chron 5:2 "For Y'hudah became greater than his brothers, inasmuch as the ruler came from him; nevertheless, the birthright went to Yosef" CJB

Reuben's tribe never rose to any prominence & theirs was one of the first to go into captivity

1 Chron 5:26 "So the God of Isra'el stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Ashur and the spirit of Tilgat-Piln' eser king of Ashur; and he carried them away as captives – the Re'uveni, the Gadi and the half-tribe of M'nasheh – and brought them to Halach, Havor, Hara and to the Gozan River, where they are to this day." CJB

By the end of Moses life, Reuben's doom is sealed - Only a depleted remnant would survive

Deut 33:6 "Let Re'uven live and not die out, even though his numbers grow few." CJB

Conclusion

How do I know passive idolatry is silently operating in me? - It's working in me when ...

I grumble and complain and get crushed when I don't get what I want

I don't care if the things I am enjoying are permissible or make me unholy

I am happier to receive a gift from God than I am to worship Him as the Giver

I feel like my life has no meaning without certain material things and people

I am discontent with my spiritual heritage and spot in the community

Ps 16:6 "Pleasant places were measured out for me; I am content with my heritage" CJB

I am unstable, uncommitted and make excuses for my unjust behavior

What should I do once I realize passive idolatry is operating in my life?

Be more careful about what I'm doing and take spiritual measures to protect myself from it

1 John 5:21 "Children, guard yourselves against false gods!" CJB

Run away from the idolatrous things as fast as I can to avoid their potential damage

1 Cor 10:14 "Therefore, my dear friends, run from idolatry!" CJB

Time to run! -

Notes