

When Good Things Become Idols

Habakkuk 2:18–19; Colossians 3:5

Reflection

When Habakkuk addressed idolatry, the Babylonians were worshipping images fashioned by human hands. They placed their trust in objects that had no ability to speak, act, or save.

Modern idolatry often looks different, but the underlying problem remains the same.

Anything we elevate above God can become an idol. Even things that are inherently good can take God's rightful place in our lives.

Family, careers, hobbies, financial security, and even church ministry can become more important to us than our relationship with God.

The danger is that we may convince ourselves that because something is good, it could never become spiritually harmful.

But when a good thing takes priority over our obedience to God, our priorities have become distorted.

Illustration

A church member may become so committed to a particular ministry that the ministry itself becomes more important than the people being served.

When that happens, disagreements become personal battles, and protecting a position becomes more important than advancing God's kingdom.

Something that began as an act of service can gradually become an object of misplaced devotion.

Application

Consider the things that receive most of your attention, affection, and energy. Is there anything, even something good, that has gradually become more important than your obedience to God?

Prayer

Father, help me recognize the idols that can quietly develop in my heart. Keep me from placing even good things above You. May every blessing, responsibility, and opportunity in my life ultimately bring You glory. Amen.