

The Art of the (Bad) Deal

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Text: Romans 1:22-25

Introduction:

Some deals are good for the dealer, others are bad. Consider the sale by Native Americans of Manhattan to Dutch settlers, or the sale of Babe Ruth by the Red Sox to the Yankees!

Mankind was created with a _____ nature.

Our _____ nature reflects the _____ and _____

of our Creator, while our _____ nature is that of an _____ who is subject to _____ and _____.

When we exalt human _____ above divine _____, we exchange our _____ nature for our _____ nature.

The intelligence with which God has gifted humankind is awesomely powerful, but must always yield when it contradicts God's clear teaching!

The instinct to worship is powerfully imprinted in our _____ — God created us to be _____!

The question is never _____ we will worship, but _____ or _____ will be worshipped?

*Worship always results in the worshipper
serving the worshipped.*

**In the absence of worshipping the _____,
human nature is to worship _____ things.**

This is the root cause of:

_____ -- **the worship of an idol or a
physical object as a representation of a god.**

_____ -- **the violation of moral
laws, norms or standards.**

_____ -- **a belief that matter is the
fundamental substance in nature, and that all phenomena,
including mental phenomena and consciousness, are
results of material interactions.**

_____ -- **a non-theistic world-view
centered on human agency and looking to science rather
than revelation from a supernatural source to understand
the world.**

*When humans lose their spiritual connectedness with God,
a form of moral gravity seems to take control,
pulling them ever downward!*

Conclusion:

*The question of who or what you are worshipping
is answered by who or what you are serving. If a neutral
observer watched you going about your daily life, who
or what would this person be likely to say you are serving?*