

## 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?*