

# Shepherd's Gate Church



## The Folly of Idolatry Isaiah 44:6-23

**Seek the LORD, not Idols**



**Ishtar the  
“Queen of  
Heaven”**



**Baal the supreme  
god among the  
Canaanites**

# Ezekiel 14:4

4 “Therefore speak to them and tell them, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “Any man of the house of Israel who sets up his **idols in his heart, ...**

# Colossians 3:5

<sup>5</sup> Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, **which amounts to idolatry.**



**SCCA**  
Sports Car Club of America



ALLIANCE  
AUTOSPORT

17

3

Sencoast Physiatry

28

GOODYEAR

HYDRO

10

38

# Phil Hill



# Jimmy Clark



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# Shepherd's Gate Church



## The Folly of Idolatry Isaiah 44:6-23

**Seek the LORD not Idols**

# Isaiah 44:6

6 “Thus says the **Lord**  
**(Yahweh),**

# The gods Osiris, Anubis, and Horus



# Marian Devotion, Lithuania



# Buddhism, Vietnam



# Apollo Ancient Greek Mythology



File:7003.Apollo mit dem getöteten Python(1752)-François Gaspard Adam-Große Fontäne-Sanssouci Steffen Heilfort.JPG

# Inca Sun Worship



# The “Benjamins,” USA





# Exodus 3:14

<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “**I AM WHO I AM**”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’ ”

# Isaiah 44:6

<sup>6</sup> “Thus says the Lord, **the King of Israel**

# Isaiah 44:6

<sup>6</sup> “Thus says the Lord, the King  
of Israel **and his Redeemer,**

# Isaiah 44:6

**6 “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:**

# Isaiah 44:6

<sup>6</sup> ... **'I am the first**

# Isaiah 44:6

<sup>6</sup> ... 'I am the first **and I am the last,**

# Isaiah 41:4

<sup>4</sup> ...‘I, the Lord, am **the first, and with the last.** I am He.’ ”

## Isaiah 41:4

<sup>4</sup> ...‘I, the Lord, am the first, and with the last. I am He.’ ”

## Isaiah 48:12

<sup>12</sup> “Listen to Me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, **I am the first, I am also the last.**



# Revelation 1:17

<sup>17</sup> When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; **I am the first and the last,**

# Revelation 2:8

8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The **first and the last**, who was dead, and has come to life, says this:

# Revelation 22:13

<sup>13</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega, **the first and the last,** the beginning and the end.”

# Isaiah 44:6

<sup>6</sup> ... **And there is no God  
besides Me.**

# Isaiah 44:7a

7a 'Who is like Me?

# Isaiah 44:7b

**7b ...Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, From the time that I established the ancient nation.**



# Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion



# Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion

**“In Israel, in order to be a realist, one must believe in miracles.”**



# Isaiah 44:7c

7c ... And let them declare to  
them the things that are coming  
And the events that are going  
to take place.

# Isaiah 44:8a

8a 'Do not tremble and do not be afraid; Have I not long since announced it to you and declared it?

# Isaiah 44:8b

8b ... And you are My  
witnesses.

# Isaiah 44:8c

8c '... Is there any God besides Me, Or is there any other Rock? I know of none.' ”



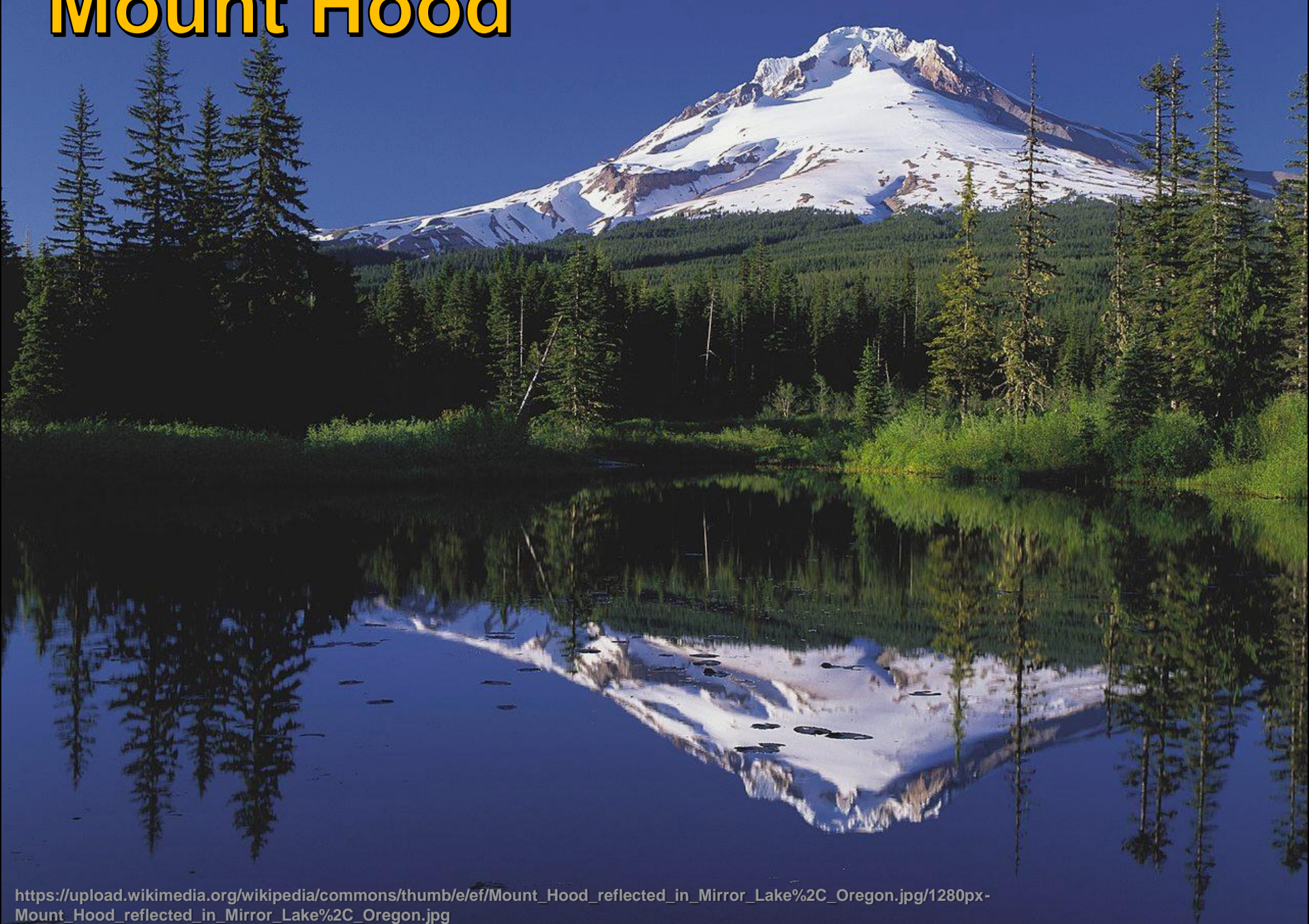
# Mount Hermon



# Mount Tabor



# Mount Hood





# Deuteronomy 32:4

4 “**The Rock!** His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.

**Israel, seek the LORD, not idols**

# Isaiah 44:9

<sup>9</sup> Those who fashion a graven image are all of them futile, and their precious things are of no profit; even their own witnesses fail to see or know, so that they will be put to shame.

# Isaiah 44:10

<sup>10</sup> Who has fashioned a god or  
cast an idol to no profit?

# Isaiah 44:11

**<sup>11</sup> Behold, all his companions will be put to shame, for the craftsmen themselves are mere men. Let them all assemble themselves, let them stand up, let them tremble, let them together be put to shame.**

# Isaiah 44:12

**<sup>12</sup> The man shapes iron into a cutting tool and does his work over the coals, fashioning it with hammers and working it with his strong arm. He also gets hungry and his strength fails; he drinks no water and becomes weary.**



# Isaiah 44:13

<sup>13</sup> *Another* shapes wood, he extends a measuring line; he outlines it with red chalk. He works it with planes and outlines it with a compass, and makes it like the form of a man, like the beauty of man, so that it may sit in a house.



# Hindu “god” Genesha



# Shiva



# Isaiah 44:14

<sup>14</sup> Surely he cuts cedars for himself, and takes a cypress or an oak and raises *it* for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a fir, and the rain makes it grow.



# Isaiah 44:15–16

<sup>15</sup> Then it becomes *something* for a man to burn, so he takes one of them and warms himself; he also makes a fire to bake bread. He also makes a god and worships it; he makes it a graven image and falls down before it. ...

# Isaiah 44:15–16

<sup>16</sup> Half of it he burns in the fire; over *this* half he eats meat as he roasts a roast and is satisfied. He also warms himself and says, “Aha! I am warm, I have seen the fire.”

# Isaiah 44:17

**<sup>17</sup> But the rest of it he makes into a god, his graven image. He falls down before it and worships; he also prays to it and says, “Deliver me, for you are my god.”**

## **Isaiah 44:18–19**

**<sup>18</sup> They do not know, nor do they understand, for He has smeared over their eyes so that they cannot see and their hearts so that they cannot comprehend. ...**



# Isaiah 44:18–19

<sup>19</sup> No one recalls, nor is there knowledge or understanding to say, “I have burned half of it in the fire and also have baked bread over its coals. I roast meat and eat *it*. Then I make the rest of it into an abomination, **I fall down before a block of wood!**”



**Heathen ritual  
space marked  
out by an  
engraved  
wooden pillar,  
located on The  
Wrekin in  
Shropshire,  
England**

# Offerings to a hunk of wood



# Isaiah 44:20

<sup>20</sup> He feeds on ashes; a deceived heart has turned him aside. And he cannot deliver himself, nor say, “Is there not a lie in my right hand?”

**Israel, seek the LORD not idols**

# Isaiah 44:21

**21 “Remember these things, O  
Jacob, And Israel, for you are  
My servant;**

# Tallit with Tzitzit (Prayer Shawl with Tassels)...









**Tallit Katan with  
Tzitzit  
(Small Prayer  
Shawl with  
Tassels)...**



**Tallit Katan with  
Tzitzit  
(Small Prayer  
Shawl with  
Tassels)...**

## Numbers 15:37–40

<sup>37</sup> The LORD also spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>38</sup> “Speak to the sons of Israel, and tell them that they shall make for themselves **tassels** on the corners of their garments throughout their generations,...

## Numbers 15:37–40

<sup>38</sup> and that they shall put on the **tassel** of each corner a cord of blue. <sup>39</sup> “It shall be a **tassel** for you to look at and **remember** all the commandments of the LORD, ...

## Numbers 15:37–40

<sup>39</sup> so as to do them and not follow after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you played the harlot, <sup>40</sup> so that you may **remember** to do all My commandments and be holy to your God.

# Mezuzah



# Mezuzah

## Literally: doorpost ...





**Mezuzah**

**The small, decorative container affixed to the right doorpost (upon entering), of the house and rooms, in...**





**Mezuzah**  
**orthodox Jewish**  
**homes**  
**containing**  
**Deut. 6:4-9 and**  
**Deut. 11:13-21.**  
**The purpose for**  
**affixing the**  
***Mezuzah* is to...**



**Mezuzah**  
serve as a  
symbol and  
reminder of the  
need to  
constantly  
remember God,  
to teach and  
obey His law,...

# Mezuzah

and to love Him,  
especially during  
the times of  
prosperity....





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# Hangin a Mezuzah on a doorpost





# Former Jewish home, Działoszyce, Poland



# Deuteronomy 6:6–9

**6** “These **words, which I am commanding you today**, shall be on your heart. **7** “You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. ...

# Deuteronomy 6:6–9

<sup>8</sup> “You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.

<sup>9</sup> “**You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

# Isaiah 44:21

<sup>21</sup> ... I have formed you, you are  
My servant, O Israel, you will  
not be forgotten by Me.

# Isaiah 44:22

22 “I have wiped out your transgressions like a thick cloud And your sins like a heavy mist. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.”

# Isaiah 44:23

<sup>23</sup> Shout for joy, O heavens, for the Lord has done it! Shout joyfully, you lower parts of the earth; Break forth into a shout of joy, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it; For the Lord has redeemed Jacob And in Israel He shows forth His glory.

# Dr. Constable's notes: Isaiah

**Idols**

**Israel**

# **Dr. Constable's notes: Isaiah**

## **Idols**

**(i) the idolater has been busy 'fashioning' his idol, but**

## **Israel**

**Israel has been 'fashioned' by the Lord**

# **Dr. Constable's notes: Isaiah**

## **Idols**

**(i) the idolater has been busy 'fashioning' his idol, but**

**(ii) the idolater is bound to his idol, but**

## **Israel**

**Israel has been 'fashioned' by the Lord**

**Israel is the Lord's bondservant**



# **Dr. Constable's notes: Isaiah**

**Idols**

**(iii) the idolater  
prayed  
pathetically,  
“Save me,” but**

**Israel**

**to Israel the  
Lord says, “I  
have redeemed  
you.”**

# **Dr. Constable's notes: Isaiah**

**Idols**

**(iv) the idolater bowed to a block of wood, but**

**Israel**

**now every tree is summoned to rejoice in the Lord.**

# Romans 11:15

**15** For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will *their* acceptance be but life from the dead?

**Israel, seek the LORD not idols**

# Deuteronomy 7:25

<sup>25</sup> “The graven images of their gods you are to burn with fire; you shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them, nor take it for yourselves, or you will be snared by it, for it is an **abomination** to the LORD your God.

# Isaiah 46:9

**9 “Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me,**

# **Ecclesiastes 1:14**

**<sup>14</sup> I have seen all the works which have been done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and striving after wind.**

**Jim Elliot**





**Jim Elliot**

**“He is no fool  
who gives what  
he cannot keep to  
gain that which  
he cannot lose.”**



# Ecclesiastes 12:13–14

<sup>13</sup> The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: **fear God and keep His commandments,** because this applies to every person. <sup>14</sup> For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

# Galatians 6:2

<sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens,  
and thereby fulfill the **law of  
Christ.**

**Don't forget!**

**Don't forget!**

**Remember, remember,  
remember, this statement:**

Don't forget!

Remember, remember,  
remember, this statement:

**Shepherd's Gate, seek the  
LORD not idols**