

“Idolatry is among the most serious sins. There are unfortunately millions today who prostrate themselves before the images of gold and silver and wood and stone and clay. But the idolatry we are most concerned with here is the conscious worshipping of still other gods. Some are of metal and plush and chrome, of wood and stone and fabrics.

“They are not in the image of God or of man, but are developed to give man comfort and enjoyment, to satisfy his wants, ambitions, passions, and desires. Some are in no physical form at all, but are intangible. Many seem to ‘worship’ on an elemental basis—they live to eat and drink.

"Modern idols or false gods can take such forms as clothes, homes, businesses, machines, automobiles, pleasure boats, and numerous other material deflectors from the path of godhood. Intangible things make just as ready gods. Degrees and letters and titles can become idols. Many people build and furnish a home and buy the automobile first—then find they ‘cannot afford’ to pay tithing. Whom do they worship?

"Young married couples who postpone parenthood until their degrees are attained might be shocked if their expressed preference were labeled idolatry. Many worship the hunt, the fishing trip, the vacation, the weekend picnics and outings.

"Still another image men worship is that of power and prestige. Many will trample underfoot the spiritual and often the ethical values in their climb to success. These gods of power, wealth, and influence are most demanding and are quite as real as the golden calves of the children of Israel in the wilderness.”

--President Spencer W. Kimball--