

### Useless Religion Habakkuk 2:18-20

The movie Cast Away is about a man stranded on an island who eventually makes a volleyball his friend. Even though this volleyball gave him great comfort, it was still a lifeless ball. Habakkuk addresses a huge problem people were doing in his day. They made idols and worshipped them. This worship frustrated Habakkuk and he reminded them, their worship is useless because these idols are not real gods.

“What good is an idol carved by man, or a cast image that deceives you? How foolish to trust in your own creation—a god that can’t even talk! What sorrow awaits you who say to wooden idols, ‘Wake up and save us!’ To speechless stone images you say, ‘Rise up and teach us!’ Can an idol tell you what to do? They may be overlaid with gold and silver, but they are lifeless inside. But the Lord is in His holy Temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him” (Habakkuk 2:18-20).

#### I. There is no other God

“The gods of other nations are **mere idols**, but the Lord made the heavens!” (Psalm 96:5).

A. In life we have **choices**, but with God we only have a **choice** (1 Timothy 2:5).

B. Jesus is **the** way to be saved, not **a** way to be saved (John 14:6).

“Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. They are headed for destruction. **Their god** is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for Him to return as our Savior” (Philippians 3:17-20).

“Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world. And this world is fading away, along with everything that people crave. But anyone who does what pleases God will live forever” (1 John 2:15–17).

“At this point many of His disciples turned away and deserted Him. Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, ‘Are you also going to leave?’ Simon Peter replied, ‘**Lord, to whom would we go?** You have the words that give eternal life. We believe, and we know You are the Holy One of God’” (John 6:66-69).

“There is salvation in **no one else!** God has given **no other name** under heaven by which we **must** be saved” (Acts 4:12).

“And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the **lake of fire**” (Revelation 20:15).

“When the seventy-two disciples returned, they joyfully reported to Him, ‘Lord, even the demons obey us **when we use Your name**’” (Luke 10:17).

“Everyone who calls on the **name of the Lord** will be saved” (Romans 10:13).