

**September 10, 2023**  
**Acts 14:1-20**  
**“Worthless Things”**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

“In the face of God’s revelation and self-attestation in nature it should be impossible to believe in gods and idols.” *Lenski*

“The gospel will cause offense—let it. So many try to preach it with an eye to their personal interest by toning down unpopular doctrines, flattering themselves that they are up-to-date, progressive, even wise. Not so these two great heralds.” *Lenski*

Ponder this, God destroyed the goddess in Noah’s day, still pagans arose among the remnant that was saved through the flood. Meditate on **Jeremiah 17:9-13**.

Talk about worthless things, “Who makes a god or casts a metal image that benefits no one? Look, all its worshipers will be put to shame, and the craftsman are humans. They all will assemble and stand; they all will be startled and put to shame. The ironworker labors over the coals, shapes the idol with hammers, and works it with his strong arm. Also he grows hungry and his strength fails; he doesn’t drink water and is faint. The woodworker stretches out a measuring line, he outlines it with a stylus; he shapes it with chisels and outlines it with a compass. He makes it according to a human form, like a beautiful person, to dwell in a temple. He cuts down cedars for his use, or he takes a cypress or an oak. He lets it grow strong among the trees of the forest. He plants a laurel, and the rain makes it grow. A person can use it for fuel. He takes some of it and warms himself; also he kindles a fire and bakes bread; he even makes it into a god and worships it; he makes an idol from it and bows down to it. He burns half of it in a fire, and he roasts meat on that half. He eats the roast and is satisfied. He warms himself and says, Ah! I am warm, I see the blaze. He makes a god or his idol with the rest of it. He bows down to it and worships; he prays to it, Save me, for you are my god.” **Isaiah 44:10-17**. (CSB) Do you have any gods? Anything you put before the Only True God?

**Application:**

Don’t let the worthless things of this world take precedence in your life. Do not allow things like: work, sports, clubs, or leisure take you away from making your number one goal worship and obedience to the Lord. Pride and jealousy are tools the devil uses to divert the heart down a road to worthless things. Stay humble, stay focused, stay prayed and confessed up. God wants all of you, got idols?