

1 John 5:21

*“guard yourselves from idols”*

## 1 John ... “idols”?

**5:20-21** “We **know**...so that we may **know** Him who is **true**...in Him who is **true**...This is the **true** God...*guard yourselves from idols*”

**Beware!** (“say” “lie” “truth” “deceiving ourselves” “know”) **1:6,8; 2:4,21; 3:7; 4:1; 5:13**

*A false imagination, idea of God is an “idol” men serve, and not the “true” God!*

*regarding FAITH ...*

**1 Jn 1:1-3; 2:1,2; 4:2,3; 5:5-6,13**

Any imagination or idea of “God” that does not correspond with the gospel of Christ as presented in the four gospels is an “idol,” and any view of “life” without that faith is vain!

*eternity...incarnation...propitiation...resurrection...*

**Jn 1:1-18; 20:30,31; 1Co 15:1-4**

**Jews ... modernists ... JW's ... Mormons ... etc**

*regarding LOVE ...*

**1 Jn 2:9-10, 15-17; 3:16-18; 4:20-5:3**

Any imagination or idea of “God” that does not require love of those who love God is an “idol,” and any view of “life” without that love is vain!

isolationism ... bitterness ...  
not interested in serving ...

regarding **RIGHTEOUS LIVING** ...

**1 Jn 1:5-10; 3:7-10,24; 5:16-18**

Any imagination or idea of “God” that allows a sinful life is an “idol,” and any view of “life” in that condition is vain!

hidden sin ( pornography...rendezvous...  
embezzlement... )... cursing, filthy language,  
abusiveness, uncontrolled anger @ work,  
home, school, etc.

1 Jn 5:13 *“that you may know”*  
*“Blessed Assurance”*

1 Jn 5:19-21

*Are you serving the TRUE God  
or an idol?*