

# **SMASHING OUR** *American Idols*

## **5. “I Do-latry of Love”**

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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**Sermon Notes**

### **The Idol of Love IS A DESIRE WHICH PUTS ANOTHER’S LOVE IN THE PLACE OF GOD’S**

*“Those who cling to worthless idols turn away from God’s love for them.*

*Jonah 2:8*

### **We smash Idols of Love BY REMEMBERING, REPENTING & RETURNING TO OUR FIRST LOVE**

*“You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. <sup>4</sup> Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. <sup>5a</sup> Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.”*

*Revelation 2:3-5a*

#### **I. Genesis 29:10-12**

<sup>10</sup> When Jacob saw Rachel, daughter of his uncle Laban, and Laban’s sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle’s sheep. <sup>11</sup> Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud. <sup>12</sup> He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and told her father.

### **Idolatrous Love SEEKS TO REPLACE LOSS AND PAIN WITH ANOTHER’S COMFORT**

*How deserted lies the city, once so full of people! How like a widow is she, who once was great among the nations! She who was queen among the provinces has now become a slave. <sup>2</sup> Bitterly she weeps at night, tears are on her cheeks. Among all her lovers there is no one to comfort her. All her friends have betrayed her; they have become her enemies.*

*Lamentations 1:1-2*

## **II. Genesis 29:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.<sup>17</sup> Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. <sup>18</sup> Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.”...

### **Idolatrous Love IS LED BY LUSTFUL PASSION AND FLEETING BEAUTY**

*“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”*  
1 John 2:15-17

## **III. Genesis 29:22-30**

<sup>22</sup> So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast. <sup>23</sup> But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and Jacob made love to her.... <sup>25</sup> When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn’t I? Why have you deceived me?”...

### **Idolatrous Love OPENS THE DOOR FOR DECEPTION AND ABUSE**

*Each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup> not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister.*  
1 Thes 4:4-5

## **IV. Genesis 29:31-35**

<sup>31</sup> When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless. <sup>32</sup> Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, “It is because the Lord has seen my misery. Surely my husband will love me now.”...

### **Idolatrous Love CAUSES US TO CHASE AFTER AFFECTION AND AFFIRMATION FROM OTHERS**

*Obviously, I’m not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ’s servant.*

Galatians 1:10 NLT