

Is wearing a crucifix idolatry? Is speaking to it idolatry? We don't worship the crucifix; but, instead just speak to it.

The Second Commandment states, "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments (Ex 20:4–6).

In the Roman Catholic religion (Jud 11) the tenth commandment is split into two parts (Deut. 4:2).

Idolatry is: irrational (Acts 17:29), degrading (Rom. 1:22, 23), demonic (1 Cor. 10:20, 21), defiling (2 Cor. 6:15–18), enslaving (Gal. 4:8, 9) and abominable (1 Pet. 4:3).¹

Christians do not worship a stone cold idol; rather, they worship the true and living God (Jer 10:10).

Jacob, an obedient patriarch (Ge 33:17–20; 35:1–7, 9–15), collected and buried all idols in his camp, ordering each person to "wash yourselves, and put on clean clothing (35:2–7)."

The prophet Isaiah spoke about Israel's idolatry (Is 57:3–13). They were wicked—the offspring of adulterers and prostitutes, children of sinners and liars (vv. 3–4). They worshipped and loved gods of stone (57:5–11)—hoping in them. Isaiah said, "When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you. But the wind will carry them all away, a breath will take them (v. 57:13)." Nothing could save them but trust in God (57:12–13).²

The prophet Hosea spoke about Israel's: rebellion, ruin, and repentance (Hos 4:1–5:15; 6:4–8:14; 9:7–10; 10:1–4) which included idolatry.³

In Romanism (Jud 11) followers kiss a crucifix (i.e. a lifeless image of Jesus on the cross) believing that it will earn them an indulgence (2 Pe 2:1).⁴

Christians first obey God (1 Sa 15:22) and then find out what is important to him by reading his word (Ps 119:105).

¹ Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 304). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

² Willmington, H. L. (1999). The Outline Bible (Is 56:9–57:13). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

³ Swearing, lying, killing, stealing, and adultery (4:1–3, 14–17), godless religious leaders (4:4–5, 8–10; 5:1–4, 10–15), godless political leaders (7:1–7), willful ignorance (4:6), idolatry (4:7, 12–13, 19; 7:8–16; 8:1–14; 10:1–3), drunkenness (4:11, 18), arrogance (5:5–9), insincere sacrifices (6:4–6), breaking the covenant (6:7–11; 10:4), refusing to hear God's Word (9:7–10). Ibid, (Ho 4–9:10).

⁴ Indulgence Granted by Pope St Pius X.