

- 4 *Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.*
- 5 *The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot. (Psalm 16:4-5)*

Man is basically a religious creature. He will have a god, or gods of some sort. Those who deny the true and living God inevitably wind up worshipping false and dead gods. It has even been recently upheld in the Supreme Court that Humanism (the creed of most of those who would rid our public institutions of all reference is in itself a religion of the most rigorous and aggressive sort. We either worship the God of the Bible or the gods of human fancy.

Those who reject God *hasten* after other gods. They sometimes put Christian zeal to shame with their devotion to their illusory deities. Witness the fervor and emotion of the sports fanatics (“fans” for short), the rock music idolaters, the drug and alcohol addicts, the covetous money-grubbers, those given over to unclean and inordinate sexual obsessions. The lists are unending, and we haven’t even named classical image worship.

The fact that the sorrows of these shall be multiplied is no news to this world. The destruction and rot which is the inevitable end of such pursuits is common knowledge. Yet this does nothing to stem the flood of humanity down this drain into the sewage of eternal ruin.

The psalmist gives us some wise instructions in view of these mad pursuits. “I will have nothing to do with them. I will not participate in their worships. I will refrain myself from partaking of their offering. I will not give them the praise and honor of the mention of my lips. I will not even speak of them. Instead, I will declare the Lord to be my portion. He is all I need. His joys will fill my life with meaning. God, and God alone, will maintain me in this present life and will fit me for eternal life.

-C.M.