

shame and hurt and grieve the God who loves us and seeks only our best and highest interests and welfare at the same time that He secures His glory!

If human beings indulge their sinful appetites and desires, those appetites and desires can grow to such proportions that the persons indulging them can forget every other consideration and justify almost any action if it contributes to gratification.

IF YOU TRY HARD ENOUGH, IT IS POSSIBLE TO RATIONALIZE AND JUSTIFY EVERY SINFUL APPETITE AND DESIRE!

Whether it is a sinful appetite for drugs or alcohol or tobacco or pornography or sex; or a sinful appetite for power, prestige, pleasure, or thrills; or a sinful appetite for food, clothes, jewelry, money, real estate, or even work; it can grow so large that moral discernment is blunted to the extent that it hardly operates, and the conscience must be told, "It's O.K. I'm not hurting anyone," or "What can you expect? After all, I'm only human," or "God understands how strong my appetite is, and if it's a sin, He'll forgive me."

Each of these sinful appetites and desires (among others) has the power to displace God and thus become an idol!