

In this fourth part of our series, we take the third, fourth, and fifth desires that tend to draw us away from God and toward idolatry.

The third desire that tends to draw us away from God and toward idolatry is:

THE DESIRE TO BREAK THROUGH THE LIMITS THAT GOD HAS SET FOR  
HUMAN CONDUCT

Would you please turn with me to Numbers 25 . . . .

**Numbers 25:1-3 (NIV)** While Israel was staying in Shittim, the men began to indulge in sexual immorality with Moabite women, {2} who invited them to the sacrifices to their gods. The people ate and bowed down before these gods. {3} So Israel joined in worshiping the Baal of Peor. And the Lord's anger burned against them.

Here we find the Israelites encamped on the plains of Moab, near the northeast corner of the Dead Sea, and they began to commit fornication with the women of Moab, and to be enticed by them to participate in the religious ceremonies of Baal, which involved sacrificing to Baal, bowing down to Baal, and eating the