

**Isaiah 44:14-15 & 18-19**

*He cuts down cedars for himself, And takes the cypress and the oak; He secures it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a pine, and the rain nourishes it. Then it shall be for a man to burn, For he will take some of it and warm himself; Yes, he kindles it and bakes bread; Indeed he makes a god and worships it; He makes it a carved image, and falls down to it.*

*They do not know nor understand; For He has shut their eyes, so that they cannot see, And their hearts, so that they cannot understand. And no one considers in his heart, Nor is there knowledge nor understanding to say, "I have burned half of it in the fire, Yes, I have also baked bread on its coals; I have roasted meat and eaten it; And shall I make the rest of it an abomination? Shall I fall down before a block of wood?"*

*"Knock on wood"*

We have all heard that expression and even used it, more of a joke than anything else, because we know that by knocking on wood, that it won't prevent something bad from happening. On the other hand, maybe you really believe that by knocking on wood you are preventing a bad thing from happening. If this is you, then you need to read today's devotional verses again.

Also, in a town I lived in, in Calif. there is a Chinese restaurant with a big Buddha in the doorway as you walk in. For me it means nothing, but for others they will walk up to it and rub its belly thinking that by doing so they will have good luck.

Ok, so maybe neither one of these applies to you. Here is one more, which we call the all mighty dollar. How much are you trusting in this piece of paper (paper is made from wood), even more so than God?

You say you don't trust in money more than God. How about when you don't have enough money for rent or to pay a bill, don't you cry out to God? Of course you do, we all do. But what if He doesn't answer by plopping a bunch of money in your lap right after you say, Amen? Don't you turn on God and start seeking other means to get the money?

*"I trust you God, unless you don't do things my way, then I question you God because I think my way is right therefore you must be wrong."*

I know that sounds pretty harsh, yet when we stop putting our faith in God that's just what we are saying.

So what or who have you been trusting in lately? Is it something you or that man had to create? If it is, then why are you trusting in it and not God?

The only thing you get by falling down to a block of wood is splinters on your face.

*"Shall I fall down before a block of wood?"*

- † **Psalm 20:7** *Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.*
- † **2 Chronicles 25:15** *Therefore the anger of the LORD was aroused against Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet who said to him, "Why have you sought the gods of the people, which could not rescue their own people from your hand?"*
- † **Psalm 115:11** *You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.*
- † **Psalm 118:8** *It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.*