

# 1st Corinthians 10:14-22

Flee. Fathom. Fellowship.

## 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 NKJV –

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

15 I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.

16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

## 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 NKJV –

17 For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

18 Observe Israel after the flesh: Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar?

19 What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything?

## 1 Corinthians 10:14-22 NKJV –

20 Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.

21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons.

22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?



# 1 Corinthians 10

## **A Caution to the Strong** (chapters 8-10)

Privileges don't guarantee success (v. 1-4)

Good starts don't guarantee good finishes (v. 5-13)

God equips us to overcome temptation (v. 14-22)

Freedom is balanced by responsibility (v. 23-33)

14] Therefore, my beloved, run [keep far, far away] from [any sort of] idolatry [and that includes loving anything more than God, or participating in anything that leads to sin and enslaves the soul] - AMP

An idol is inanimate, but its setting implies worship  
(Ex 20:4-6; Deut 5:8-10; cf 2 John 5:21)

15] I am speaking as to wise and sensible people;  
judge [carefully and thoughtfully consider] for  
yourselves what I say. - AMP

Wise = phonimos, sensible, reasonable  
understanding (not sophos, as in 1st Cor 1:20)

Mixture of irony to their boast of “wisdom”

(1 Co 4:10; 2 Co 11:19)



**16]** Is the cup of blessing which we bless [at the Lord's Supper] not a sharing in the blood of Christ? [Indeed it is.] Is the bread which we break not a sharing in the body of Christ? [Indeed it is.] - AMP

**Partakers** is the same word (**koinonia**)

for **communion** in **1 Cor 10:16**

and **fellowship** in **1 Cor 10:20**

**Koinonia** = oneness, participation, fellowship, communion, or communication.

16] the cup of blessing

**Passover:**

Kiddush - First Cup: **Sanctification**

Makkot - Second Cup: **Plagues**

Ha-Geulah - Third Cup: **Redemption/Blessing**

Hallel - Fourth Cup: **Praise**

# Ha-Geulah - Third Cup: **Redemption/Blessing**

Jesus calls this cup "the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you" - Luke 22:20

(see Jeremiah 31:31 and 1st Cor 11:23- 26)

17] Since there is one bread, we [believers] who are many are [united into] one body; for we all partake of the one bread [which represents the body of Christ].

- AMP

We all partake of One Bread of Life

(Mt 26:26-28; 1 Cor 10:16; 11:23- 25)

18] Consider the people of Israel; are those who eat the sacrifices not partners of the altar [united in their worship of the same God]? [Indeed they are.] - AMP

Golden Calf vs God's Alter (Ex 32:6; 24:3,7; cf. Rom 8:5a; Lev 7:6; Deut 18:1 )

19] What do I mean then? That a thing offered to idols is anything [special or changed simply because it is offered], or that an idol is anything? - AMP

An idol is nothing in the world (stone/wood)  
(1 Corinthians 8:4)

But in worshiping those things you worship demons  
(Deuteronomy 32:17)

**20]** On the contrary, the things which the Gentiles (pagans) sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons [in effect], and not to God; and I do not want you to become partners with demons [by eating at feasts in pagan temples].

**21]** You cannot drink [both] the Lord's cup and the cup of demons. You cannot share in both the Lord's table and the table of demons [thereby becoming partners with them]. - AMP

The problem isn't the meet, its the meeting...

No one can serve two masters

(Mt 6:24; Lk 16:13).



“Our only altar is the cross, our only sacrifice that of Christ once for all. The Lord’s Supper stands, however, in the same relation, analogically, to Christ’s sacrifice, as the Jews’ sacrificial feasts did to their sacrifices (compare Mal 1:7, “altar ... table of the Lord”), and the heathen idol feasts to their idolatrous sacrifices (Is 65:11). The heathen sacrifices were offered to idol nonentities, behind which Satan lurked. The Jews’ sacrifice was but a shadow of the substance which was to come.-

-Our one sacrifice of Christ is the only substantial reality; therefore, while the partaker of the Jew's sacrificial feast partook rather "of the altar" (1 Co 10:18) than of God manifested fully, and the heathen idol-feaster had fellowship really with demons, the communicant in the Lord's Supper has in it a real communion of, or fellowship in, the body of Christ once sacrificed, and now exalted as the Head of redeemed humanity." - Fausset

22] Do we [really] provoke the Lord to jealousy [when we eat food sacrificed to handmade “gods” at pagan feasts]? Are we [spiritually] stronger than He? [Certainly not! He knows that the idols are nothing. But we deeply offend Him.] - AMP

God is a Jealous God (Ex 20:5; Deut 5:9; cf. Deut 32:16).

23] All things are lawful [that is, morally legitimate, permissible], but not all things are beneficial or advantageous. All things are lawful, but not all things are constructive [to character] and edifying [to spiritual life]. - AMP

An idol is inanimate, but its setting implies worship  
(Ex 20:4-6; Deut 5:8-10; cf 2 John 5:21)

# Flee. Fathom. Fellowship.

Question for inspection:

1. Do I find greater joy seeking God and doing the things of God and the things of this world?
2. Am I putting anything before God or what he's called me to?
3. Do I love God and his church more than I love myself?

4. What do you sacrifice time, talent, and treasure to?
5. What causes you to forsake time with God, skipping worship, fellowship, or church to go do this...?
6. We were made to worship, what or who are you worshipping?

You will become more like what you worship.



“The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)