### 1 Corinthians

## Chapter 8

1Now, regarding things that have been sacrificed to idols:  
  
We realize that everyone knows something [about this]… However, knowledge puffs up, while love builds up. 2So if anyone thinks he already knows everything about this, he doesn’t really understand it as well as he should yet… 3And God knows those who truly love Him.  
  
4Yes, when it comes to eating food that has been offered to idols, we know that this world’s idols aren’t real; there’s no God but the [true] One... 5And although there are some who are called ‘gods’ (whether heavenly or earthly, for there are many ‘gods’ and many ‘lords’), 6we only have one God –the Father– from whom everything came, and we’re in Him.  
  
There’s also just one Lord, Jesus the Anointed; everything is in his hand, and we are in his hand too.There’s also just one Lord, Jesus the Anointed; everything is in his hand, and we are in his hand too.<sup class="difference">[Syr] [see translator note]  
  
7However, not everyone fully understands this yet. For up until now, some [Christians] have followed the practice of [buying and] eating food that’s been [previously] sacrificed to idols… And this has damaged their consciences and made them [spiritually] weak. 8But understand that what we eat doesn’t really affect our standing with God; so if we choose not to eat [food that was previously sacrificed to idols], we aren’t sinning… Nor will we be blest if we eat it.  
  
9But be careful that this power of yours doesn’t become a trap to those who are [spiritually] weak!  
  
10Because, if anyone sees you (the one who knows) dining in an idol’s temple... {Look!} Won’t the [spiritually] weak one’s conscience be emboldened to eat what’s sacrificed [to idols]? 11 And then, because of your knowledge, this [spiritually] weak man –your brother, for whom the Anointed One died– may be lost [back to idol worship]! 12If you sin against your brother in this way and assault his weak conscience, you are [in fact] sinning against the Anointed One.  
  
13Therefore, if food is a trap to my brother, I’ll won’t eat [such] meat throughout [the rest of] the age, so that I won’t turn myself into a snare for my brother!