

1 Corinthians 8

Chapter 8 of 16 · 13 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Food Offered to Idols

1 Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.

2 And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know.

3 But if any man love God, the same is known of him.

4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.

5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,)

6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

Do Not Cause Another to Stumble

7 Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

8 But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse.

9 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

10 For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols;

11 And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?

12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

13 Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Heaven — οὐρανός (Ouranos)

Heaven, sky

The Greek **ouranos** (οὐρανός) denotes heaven—God's throne and the believer's eternal home. Jesus taught His disciples to pray 'Our Father which art in heaven' (Matthew 6:9) and promised to prepare a place there (John 14:2).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Love — ἀγάπη (Agape)

Divine love

The Greek **agape** (ἀγάπη) denotes self-sacrificial, unconditional love—the highest form of love, characterizing God's nature (1 John 4:8) and the love Christians are called to demonstrate.

Messiah — Χριστός (Christos)

Christ, Anointed One

The Greek **Christos** (Χριστός) translates 'Messiah'—the Anointed One. Peter confessed 'Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God' (Matthew 16:16), recognizing Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah.

CROSS REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 8:1 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 8:2; 8:4; 8:7; Numbers 25:2; Isaiah 5:21; Acts 15:29; Romans 14:3; 15:14; Revelation 2:14. **Love:** Ephesians 4:16

1 Corinthians 8:2

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 3:18; 13:12; Proverbs 26:12; Romans 11:25; Galatians 6:3

1 Corinthians 8:3 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 33:17; Jeremiah 1:5; Nahum 1:7; John 10:14.

References God: Psalms 1:6; Galatians 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:19. **Love:** 1 Corinthians 2:9; James 1:12; Revelation 2:19

1 Corinthians 8:4 **References God:** Deuteronomy 4:39; 6:4; Isaiah 44:6; Mark 12:29; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:5. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 41:24; 44:24

1 Corinthians 8:5

References God: Deuteronomy 10:17; Jeremiah 2:11; 2:28; 11:13; Daniel 5:4; Galatians 4:8; 2 Thessalonians 2:4

1 Corinthians 8:6 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 11:27; John 1:3; 14:20; Acts 17:28; Romans 11:36. **References God:** 1 Corinthians 8:4; Malachi 2:10. **References Jesus:** 1 Corinthians 12:3; Matthew 28:18; Acts 2:36

1 Corinthians 8:7 **Parallel theme:** Romans 14:14

1 Corinthians 8:8 **References God:** 1 Corinthians 6:13; Romans 14:17. **Parallel theme:** Hebrews 13:9

1 Corinthians 8:9 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 8:10; 8:12; 9:22; 10:24; 10:32; Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 2:16; 2 Peter 2:19

1 Corinthians 8:10 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 8:4; 8:7; Romans 14:14; 14:23

1 Corinthians 8:11

References Christ: Romans 14:15. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 8:13

1 Corinthians 8:12

Parallel theme: Matthew 18:6; 25:45. **References Christ:** 1 Corinthians 12:12

1 Corinthians 8:13

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 6:12; 13:5; Romans 14:21; 2 Corinthians 6:3; 11:29

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