

In Agape

"But knowledge puffs up while love builds up." 1 Corinthians 8:1c

I have kept the law.
Not for my own sake—
 May I never boast in my own
 righteousness—
 But only His, Yahweh,
 Creator and Sustainer.
You who eat freely claim to know Him,
 But me? How can I sin against my
 Lord?
You purchased it in the market,
 Not knowing its true nature—
 a sacrifice to Zeus, Athena,
 Apollo.
To partake would wound my already
fragile conscience,
 for the law runs deep in my
 psyche.
Will the scruples ever be quieted?
How do I love my brother?
 May I never impede his freedom
 In agape.

Freedom is sweet.
I see now—
 Christ has fulfilled the law!
Finally I cast away the rules and
regulations—
 See what He has done!
Meat sacrificed is nothing—
 Temples to Zeus, Athena, Apollo
 stand empty.
For us, there is but one God, the Father,
 and one Lord, Jesus Christ.
How I long for others to taste the same
freedom,
 yet conscience does not always
 permit peace.
At last I have knowledge—
 Yet understanding alone is not
 enough.
How do I love my brother?
 May I never be a stumbling block
 In agape.