



A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

HOLINESS IN FREEDOM: IDOLATRY

Part Two: 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 ^{NIV}

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.



1 Corinthians 10:15-17 ^{NIV}

I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a **participation** in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a **participation** in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all **share** the one loaf.



1 Corinthians 10:14 ^{NIV}

Therefore, my dear friends, **flee from idolatry.**

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 ^{NIV}

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a **participation** in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a **participation** in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all **share** the one loaf.



“When anything in life is an absolute requirement for your happiness and self-worth, it is essentially an ‘idol,’ something you are actually worshiping... If we look to some created thing to give us the meaning, hope, and happiness that only God himself can give, it will eventually fail to deliver and break our hearts. An idolatrous attachment can lead you to break any promise, rationalize any indiscretion, or betray any other allegiance, in order to hold on to it. It may drive you to violate all good and proper boundaries. To practice idolatry is to be a slave.”

- Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*



1 Corinthians 10:18-19 ^{NIV}

Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? ¹⁹ Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything?



1 Corinthians 10:18-20 ^{NIV}

Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? ¹⁹ Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? ²⁰ No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and **I do not want you to be participants with demons.**



1 John 5:19 ^{NIV}

We know that we are children of God, and that the **whole world is under the control of the evil one.**

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HOLINESS IN FREEDOM:
IDOLATRY



1 John 5:19-20 ^{NIV}

We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. ²⁰ We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that **we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ.** He is the true God and eternal life.



1 John 5:19-21 ^{NIV}

We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. ²⁰ We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. ²¹ Dear children, **keep yourselves from idols.**



1 Corinthians 10:21-22 ^{NIV}

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; **you cannot have a part in both** the Lord's table and the table of demons. ²² Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?



COMMUNION RE-MEMBERS


To Christ • To one another



IDOLATRY DISMEMBERS


Divides our loyalties • Opens us to the demonic
Provokes the good anger of God





“The only way to free ourselves from the destructive influence of counterfeit gods is to **turn back to the true one**. The living God, who revealed himself both at Mount Sinai and on the Cross, is the only Lord who, if you find him, can truly fulfill you, and, if you fail him, can truly forgive you.”

- Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*



Because there is one loaf, our many-ness becomes one-ness — Christ doesn't become fragmented in us. Rather, **we become unified in him.** We don't reduce Christ to what we are; he raises us to what he is.

1 Corinthians 10:17 ^{MSG}