

meat offered to idols? (I Corinthians 8:8) _____
(b) In God's eyes, are we the worse if we don't eat meat offered to idols? (I Corinthians 8:8) _____

But be careful not to use your liberty in a way that you will cause your brother to sin whose conscience is weaker than yours.

You see, this is what may happen: Someone who thinks it is wrong to eat this food will see you eating at a temple restaurant, for you know there is no harm in it. Then he will become bold enough to do it too, although all the time he still feels that it is wrong. So because you "know it is alright to do it," you will be responsible for causing great spiritual damage to a brother with tender conscience for whom Christ died. And it is a sin against Christ to sin against your brother by encouraging him to do something he thinks is wrong (I Corinthians 8:10-12, LB).

2. What declaration does Paul make in I Corinthians 8:13? _____

EIGHTH STUDY

CHRISTIAN LIBERTIES

THINGS OFFERED TO IDOLS (I Corinthians 8:1-3)

Paul deals with more of the Corinthian believer's questions concerning things offered to idols. They also wanted to know if it was alright to participate in heathen festivals (I Corinthians 8:10). The Jews believed it was unlawful under any circumstances; while the Gentiles were accustomed to it, especially since some were family gatherings. The majority of the Corinthians asking advice were liberal in their views.

In the next three Chapters of I Corinthians, Paul, through his apostolic authority, gives his judgment concerning these questions.

Paul, again, used "puffed-up to describe the Corinthians by their knowledge and liberty in Christ and their condemning of others. They had no consideration for the other brother's conscience who didn't know any better (I Corinthians 8:1; see I Corinthians 4:6).

1. If any man thinks he knows anything, what does he really know? (I Corinthians 8:2 Nothing that he ought to know)

If any man thinks he knows all the answers, he is just showing his ignorance (LB). Love builds up, it does not tear down his brother in Christ.

The person who sincerely loves God, is always

open to God's kind of knowledge (I Corinthians 8:3).

When an animal was offered in sacrifice to idols, it was tagged so that those disposing of it would be able to recognize it, but when the meat was butchered for sale, the tags were done away with and only those selling it would know the difference. So a brother in Christ would not even know it if no one told him.

MANY IDOL gODS BUT ONLY ONE TRUE AND LIVING GOD (I Corinthians 8:4-6)

1. As concerning things offered in sacrifice to idols, What does Paul say, we as Christians know? (I Corinthians 8:4)? _____

According to some people, there are a great many gods, both in heaven and on earth. But we know that there is only one God, the Father, who created all things and made us to be His own; and one Lord Jesus Christ, who made everything and gives us life (I Corinthians 8:5,6,LB) .

Comparing Scripture with Scripture; and as we continue to study about this subject, we find Paul in the 10th Chapter (I Corinthians 10:16,19,20), expounding on this same subject: referring to the partaking of the Lord's supper as sharing in the Redemption of Christ; and then comparing it to the participating of the idolatrous feast as involving yourself with demons (see Revelation 2:14,20,

where Jesus is speaking to the Church; 9:20; Acts 15:28,29; 21:25, where Paul is talking to the Jews at Jerusalem).

From talking to missionaries, and seeing some of the affects ourselves, we have found out this to be true in our day and time. The idol, Buddha, for instance, has no power at all on it's own, but the demon spirits that surround this idol do have satanic powers, and so do the practices involved. People, in Voodoo worship, get into trances and fall under the evil powers of demon spirits which cause them to do phenomenal evil things.

We are not to fellowship with demons in any way. To bring an idol into your home, is to invite demons to take up lodging among you and your family.

2. Fill in the blanks.

*For though there be that are _____
_____, whether _____ or in
_____, (as there be _____
and _____.)*

*But _____, there is but _____. the
_____, of whom are all things, and we ____
_____; and _____
_____, by whom are _____,
and _____ by _____ (I Corinthians 8:5,6).*

RESTRICTIONS ON CHRISTIAN LIBERTY (I Corinthians 8:7-11)

1. (a) In God's eyes, are we any better if we eat