

# The Dangers of Idolatry

1 Corinthians 10:1-22

## *Idolatry: Examples from Israel's Past (10:1-13)*

### *2. Four Formative Models from Scripture (10:6-13)*

*Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come (v11)*

## *Idolatry: Examples from Israel's Past (10:1-13)*

### *2. Four Formative Models from Scripture (10:6-13)*

*Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it (vv12-13)*

## *The Exclusivity of The Lord's Supper (10:14-22)*

*14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 15 I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say.*

- Pastoral tone
- Immediacy
- Knowledge and understanding

## *The Exclusivity of The Lord's Supper (10:14-22)*

*16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.*

- The cup of blessing
- Participation in Christ

## *The cup of blessing (v16)*

- The Lord's Supper and its connection to the Passover meal
  - Christ is our Passover Lamb (5:7)
  - Bread of affliction and the body of Christ

## *One Bread, One Body, and koinonia in Christ*

- One church (1:10-12), one name (1:13-17), no divisions (compare Eph 4:4-5).
- “Saul, why are you persecuting *me*?” (Acts 9:4; 22:7)
- Lord’s Supper - covenant pledges of loyalty and solidarity
- Vertical and horizontal

## *The Exclusivity of The Lord's Supper (10:14-22)*

*18 Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants (koinonia) in the altar?*

- *Greek: Israel according to the flesh*
- *Historical implications*
  - *Levitical priests ate of the sacrifices (Lev 7:6)*
  - *The people drank the cup of idolatry (Ex 32:19-20)*



## *The Exclusivity of The Lord's Supper (10:14-22)*

*19 What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons.*

## *The Exclusivity of The Lord's Supper (10:14-22)*

*21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. 22 Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*