

**GOSPEL** of *Grace*  
FELLOWSHIP

**1 Corinthians 8:4-6**

**The True God and So-Called Gods**

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**More Slogans Regarding Idol Food**

**1 Corinthians 8:4 (ESV)**  
Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “**an idol has no real existence,**” and that “**there is no God but one.**”

- “We know” is exactly as in vs. 1— this resumes the food offered to idols topic
- The statements in the quotation marks are likely slogans from some in Corinth
- The one God is true—Shema (Deut. 6:4)

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**So-Called ‘gods’**

**1 Corinthians 8:5 (ESV)**  
For although **there may be so-called gods** in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”

- Deities constructed by men do not have attributes of the true God of the Bible
- Some in Corinth were misusing this fact to take harmful liberties with pagan worship
- This is the protasis of a conditional

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**The True God Is the Creator**

**1 Corinthians 8:6 (ESV)**  
yet for us there is one God, the Father, **from whom are all things** and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, **through whom are all things and through whom we exist.**

- Vs 6 = apodosis of the protasis of verse 5
- We exist for God's purposes who has “all things” as His servants (Ps. 119:90-91)
- The Deity of Christ is strongly affirmed

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**Protasis Apodosis Reasoning**

- Protasis: Many so-called gods are worshipped by pagans
- Apodosis: Only one God has the necessary attributes of deity—eternal noncontingent existence and creation of all contingent things out of nothing

**Conclusion: we worship the true God through God the Son, Jesus Christ**

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**Implications and Applications**

- Details about the doctrine of God must be taught to the church
- Idolatry is still a danger to Christians
- Idols cannot save; God calls all to turn to Him for salvation

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### The Sovereign I AM

#### Isaiah 46:9-10 (ESV)

remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose.'

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### Objective Evidence

#### Isaiah 46:11 (ESV)

Calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.

#### Isaiah 44:28 (ESV)

Who says of **Cyrus**, 'He is my shepherd, and he shall fulfill all my purpose'; saying of Jerusalem, 'She shall be built,' and of the temple, 'Your foundation shall be laid.'

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### Dumb Idols Versus the Message of the Spirit: 'Jesus is Lord'

#### 1 Corinthians 12:2-3 (ESV)

You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.

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### Idols Cannot Save

#### Isaiah 45:20-21a (NASB)

"Gather yourselves and come; Draw near together, you fugitives of the nations; They have no knowledge, Who carry about their wooden idol And pray to a god who cannot save. Declare and set forth your case; Indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD?"

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### A Universal Call to Turn to God

#### Isaiah 45:21b-22 (NASB)

"And there is no other God besides Me, A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me. 'Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other.'

#### Acts 4:12 (NASB)

And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.

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