

1st Corinthians Chapter 8

May 6, 2026

Chapter 8. Paul continues his instructions to the Corinthian Church of living for God while disconnecting with the World. This is not so easy when all one has ever known was the culture and lifestyles from birth. Two sides to all worldly and natural life issues. 1. Not to be bound by the desires of the heart and 2. Not to bound by the legalism of the rituals of religion.

Verses 1-3: A prelude to the discussion about food; especially food that has been sacrificed to idols. Basically, he says that there is an earthly, natural minded knowledge, and then there is a knowledge that is spiritual that comes from God. Having the latter will guide us into lifestyles pleasing in God's sight.

Verses 4-6: In God's eyes an idol is nothing. And so it should be in ours. We have only one God. And He alone is the one we recognize and worship. Our one God comes to us in three persons. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost (Spirit).

Verses 7-8: What one believes is critically important and impacting upon that one. If one believes in Santa Claus, then Santa is real to that one in many ways. Yet there is a belief in Truth and there is a belief in lies. Santa Claus is a lie. We all know that. But many believe Voo Doo is real. Our outward rituals do not bring us closer to God. It is our inner belief that is demonstrated in our outward acts that pleases God.

Verse 9-13: Just as many adults go along with the fantasy of Santa, is an attempt not to spoil the fun of childhood dreams. While I know that Santa is but a game, it is real to the kids. Therefore, because I know Santa is a lie, I cannot play or support Santa to the kids. I simply excuse myself from these activities. But the worst would be to "go along to get along. Then I would be consciously acting out a lie, And the hurt would be to myself more so than to the kids. And the damage to the kids could become permeant. Especially if they grow to believe Santa was from God and of God. As some believe of Donald Trump.