

# 1 CORINTHIANS

The Gospel  
in Community

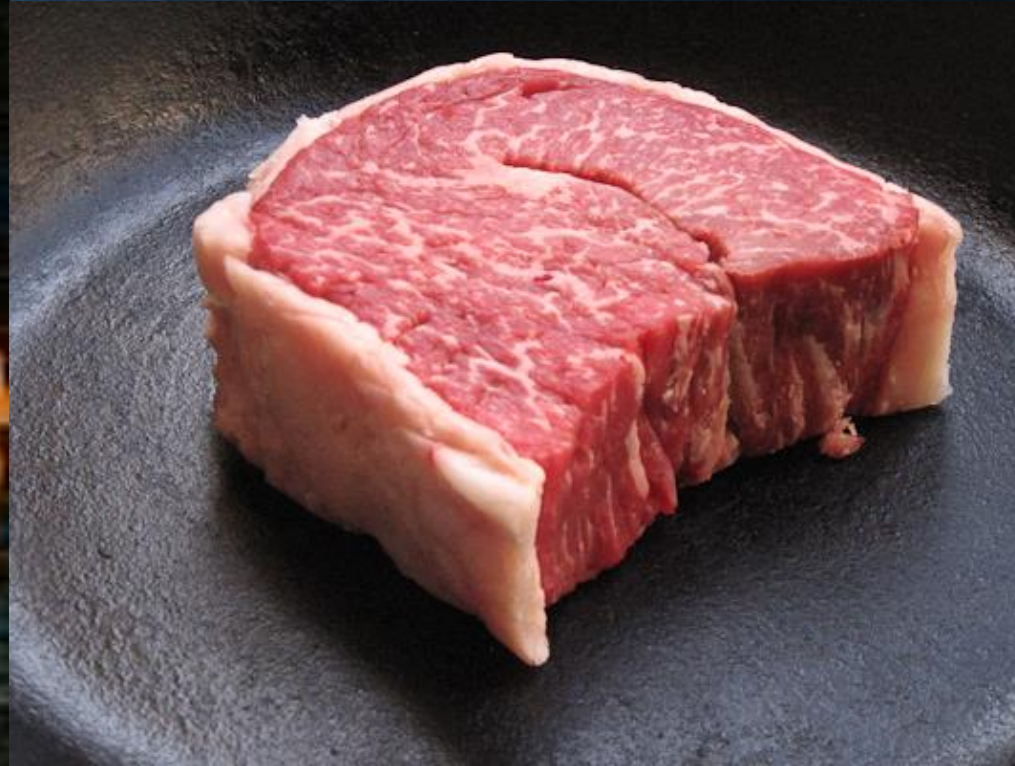
WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

## Study 12

### THE GOSPEL IN AN IDOLATROUS CULTURE PART 2

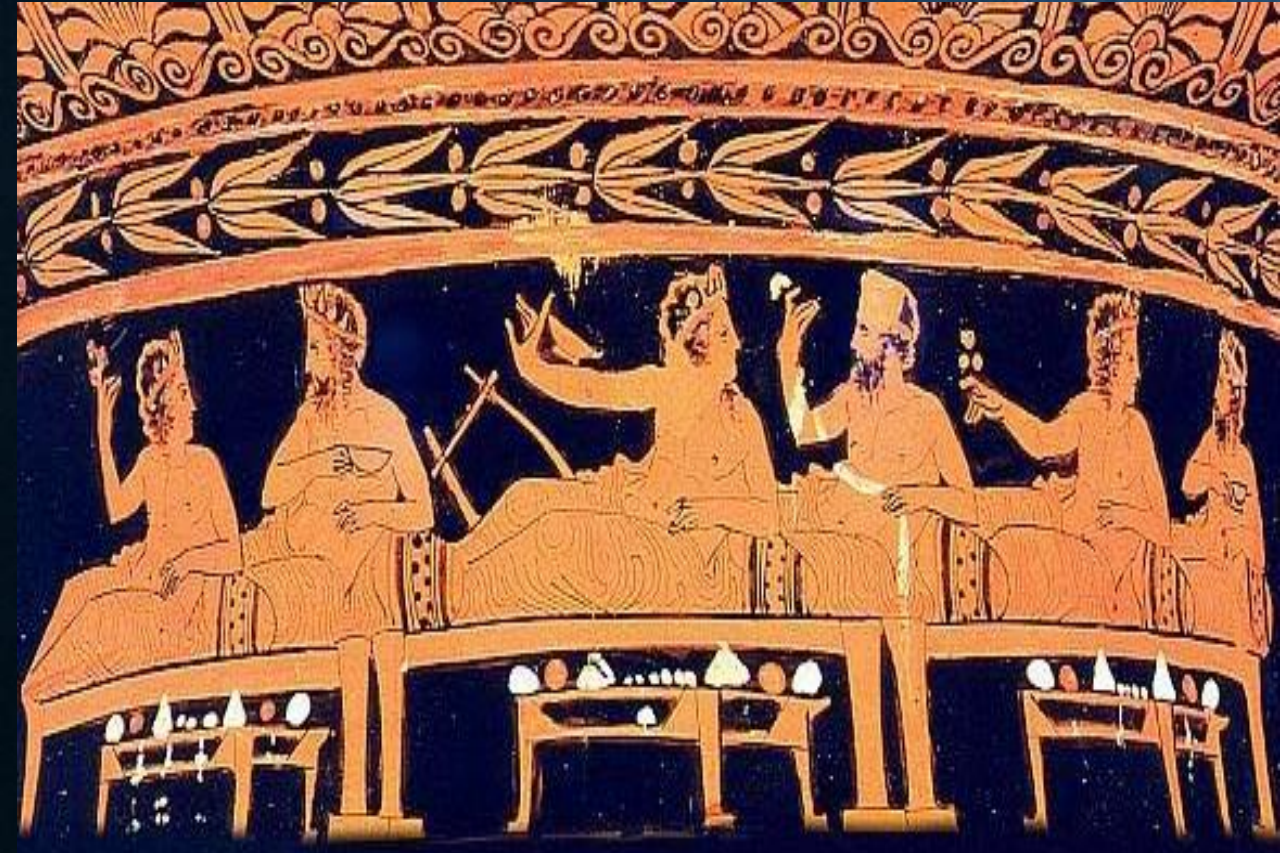
I Corinthians 10

# THE CULTIC MEAL MEAT



**TEMPLE CULTIC MEAL**

**MEAT SOLD IN MARKET PLACE**



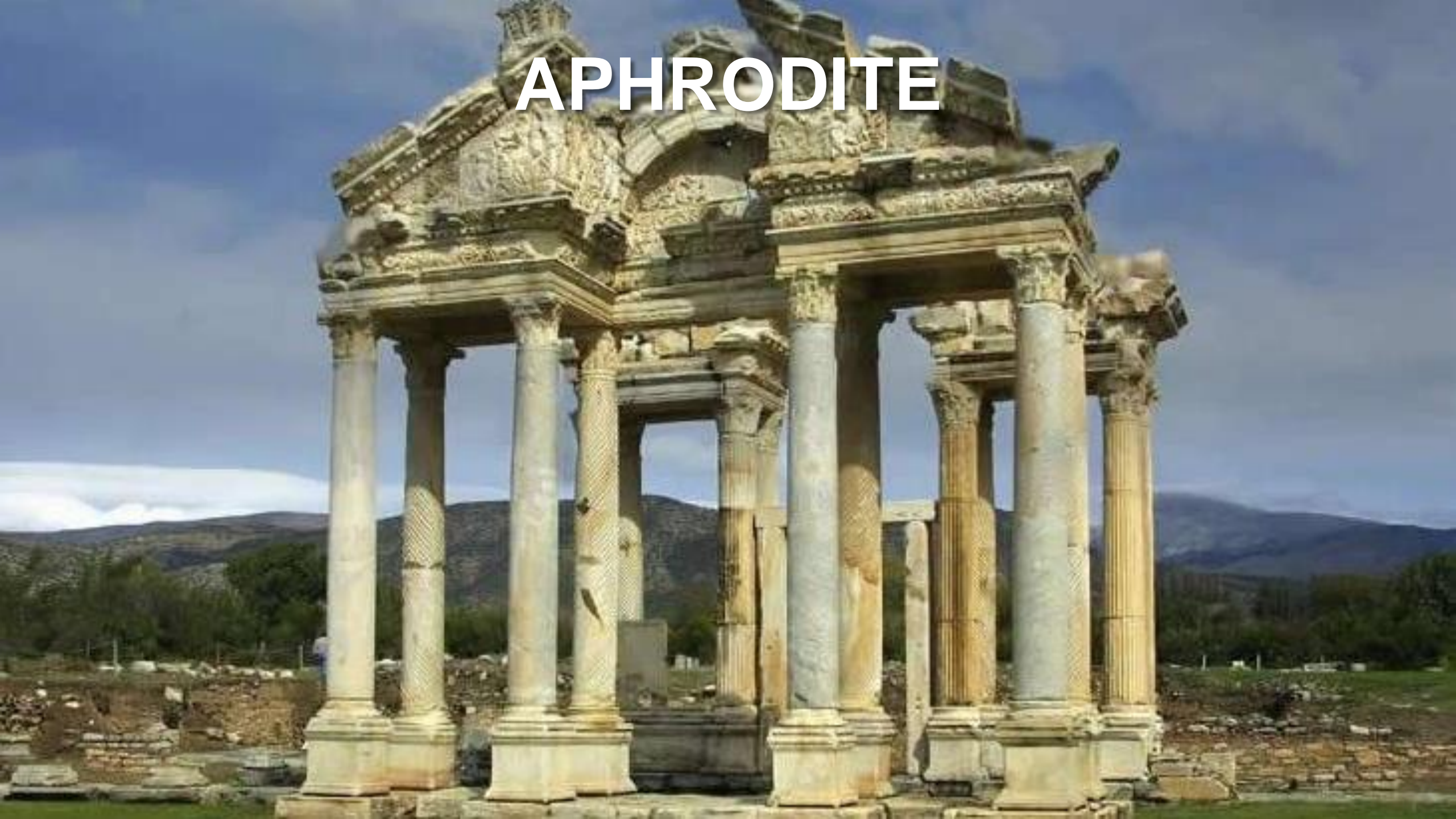
Vice and Religion flourished



Roma



# APHRODITE



# THE GOSPEL AND AN IDOLATROUS CULTURE



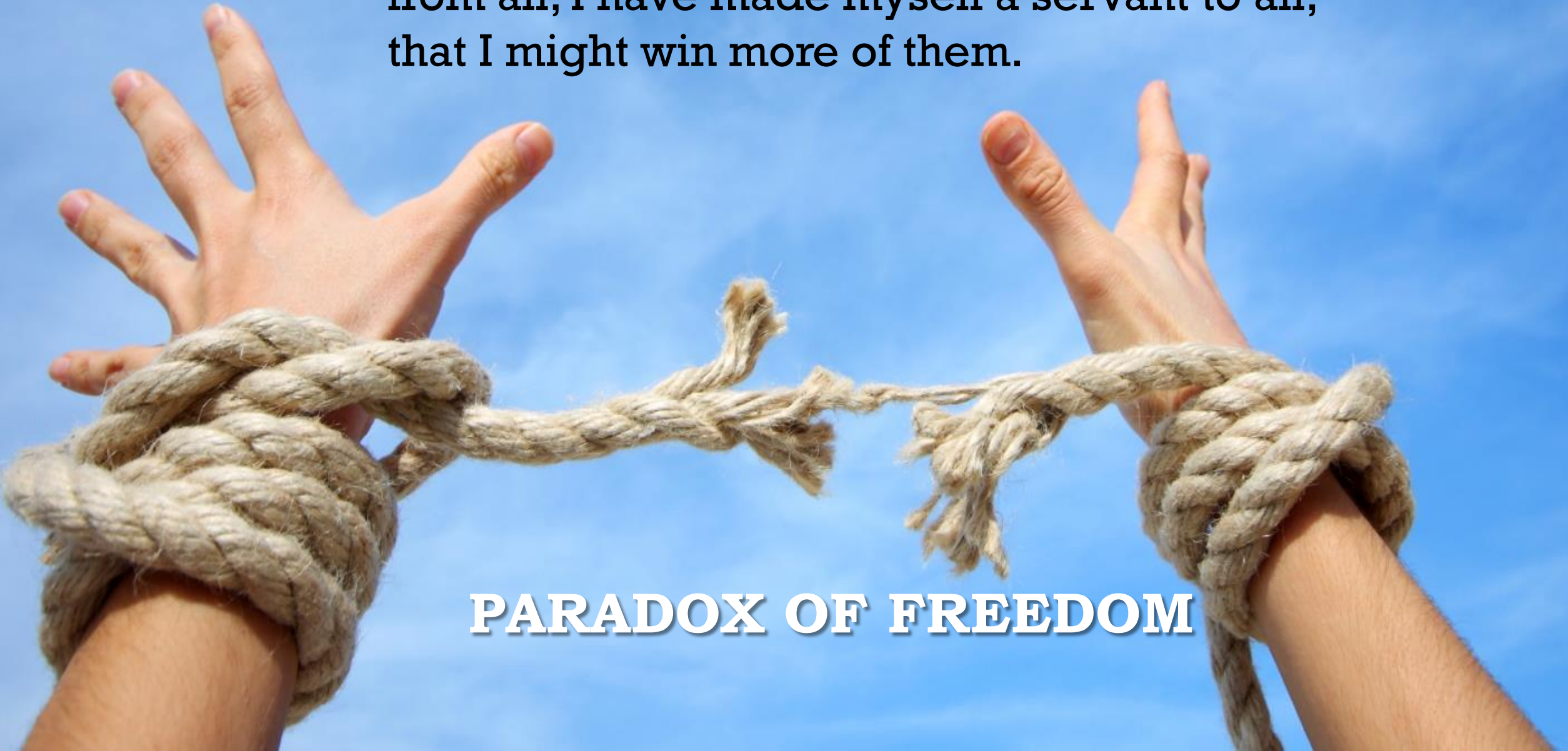
1 Cor 8 :1 Now concerning food offered to idols:

Chapter 8  
Loving knowledge  
Don't stumble weaker

Chapter 9  
True Liberty  
Defense of Apostolic authority  
Sacrificing rights for sake of gospel

Chapter 10  
Dealing with temptation  
Reject idolatry- Do not partake of food offered to idols

1 Corinthians 9:19 (ESV) For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them.



**PARADOX OF FREEDOM**



# ATHLETE

1 Corinthians 9:25-27 (ESV) Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

Kock out blow  
Body under  
complete control





## WORLDLY WISDOM

Super-spiritual, sophisticated, taking  
worlds standards



Lowly, unimpressive, unsophisticated  
embarrassing message of cross  
True power of God

# SARCASM

## Corinthians

## Apostles

You have all you want (v. 8)

We go hungry and thirsty (v. 11)

You have become rich (v. 8)

We are in rags (v. 11)

You have become kings (v. 8)

We are brutally treated and homeless and work hard (v. 11)

You are so wise in Christ (v. 10)

We have become fools for Christ (v. 10)

You are strong (v. 10)

We are weak (v. 10)

You are honored (v. 10)

We are dishonored (v. 10)

# Spiritual immaturity v 1-4





**The dangers  
of Spiritual  
immaturity**

## **A. WE CANNOT RELY ON PAST SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES OR BLESSINGS**

**For** I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 and all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

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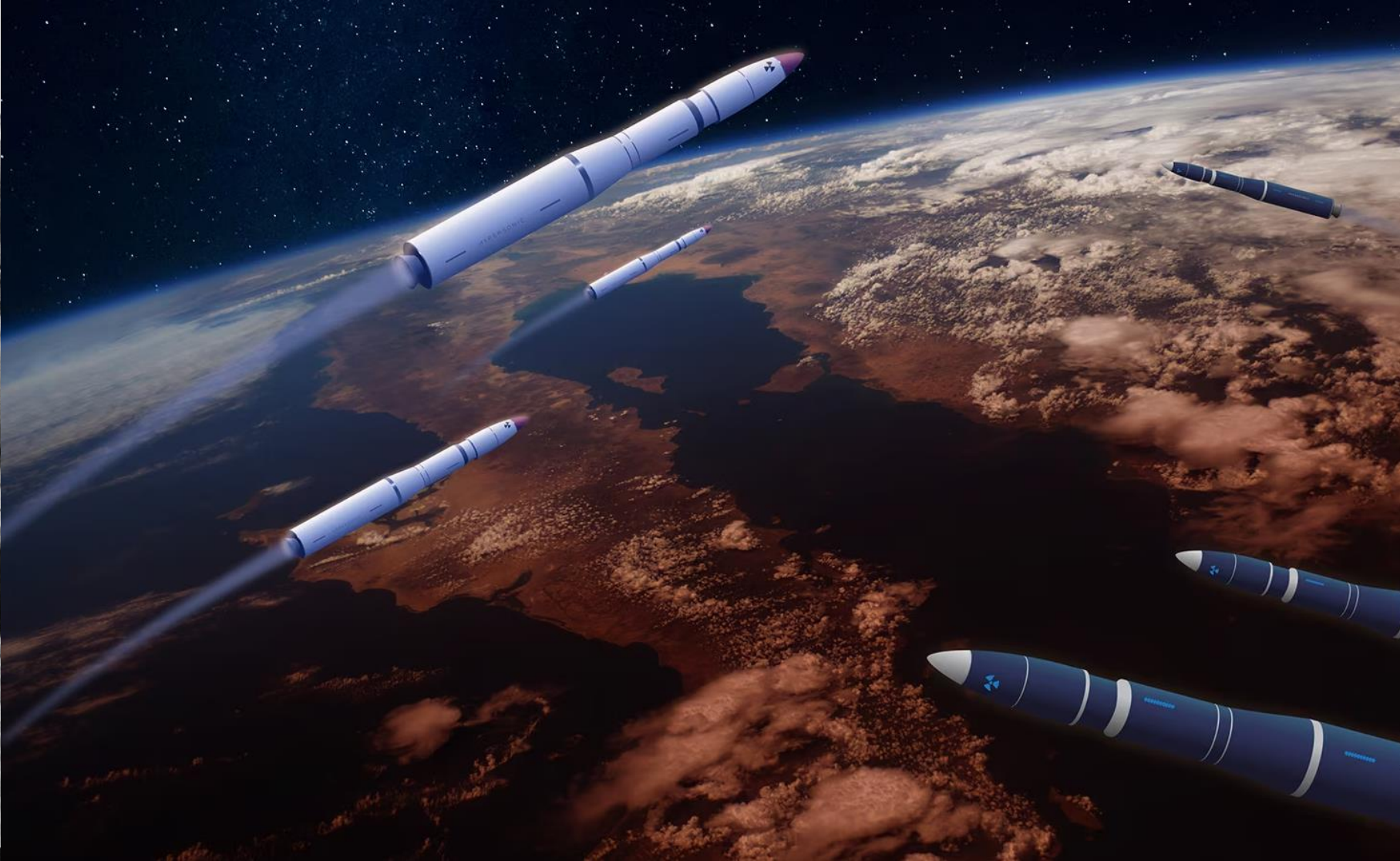


1900-1920's

# THE GREATEST GENERATIONS FOUNDATION



WHERE EVERY DAY IS MEMORIAL DAY



# THE REFORMASI GENERATION

For I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all on to the streets, and all passed through the sea of yellow tee shirts, 2 and all were arrested with Anwar in the jail and on the streets,



Canon  
Delighting You Always

Nikon  
DSLR  
Camera

LIINTEL  
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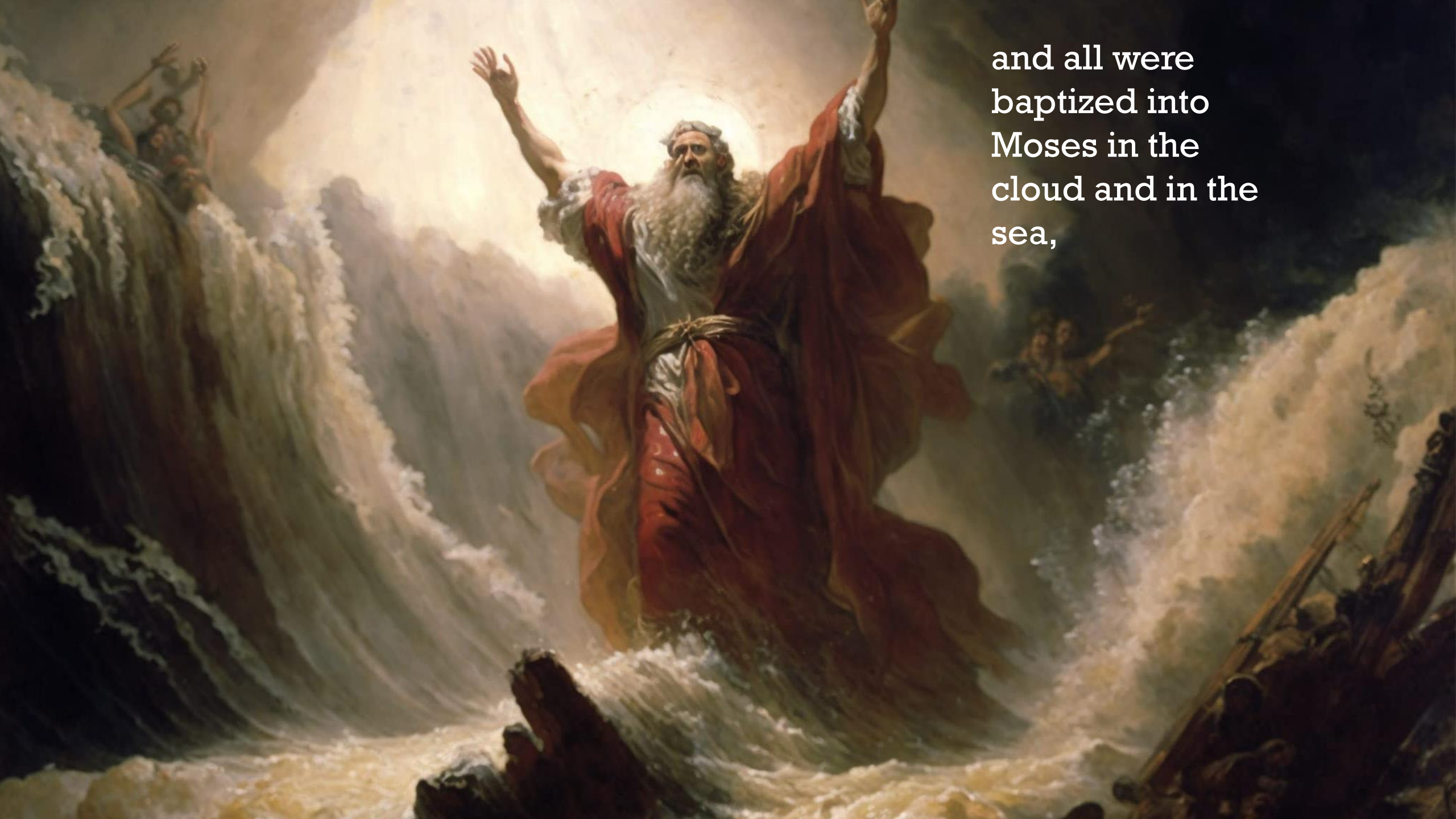
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BERSIH 3.0

were all under the cloud,



and all passed through the sea,





and all were  
baptized into  
Moses in the  
cloud and in the  
sea,

Spiritual=were supernaturally given and thus divinely sustained them in the desert

.. all ate the same spiritual food,

.... and all drank the same spiritual drink.





For they drank  
from the  
spiritual Rock  
that followed  
them, and the  
Rock was  
Christ.



# SONG OF MOSES

- Deuteronomy 32:3-4 (ESV) For I will proclaim the name of the LORD; ascribe greatness to our God! 4 “The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice.
- Deuteronomy 32:15 (ESV) But Jeshurun grew fat, and kicked; you grew fat, stout, and sleek; then he forsook God who made him and scoffed at the Rock of his salvation.

## SONG OF MOSES

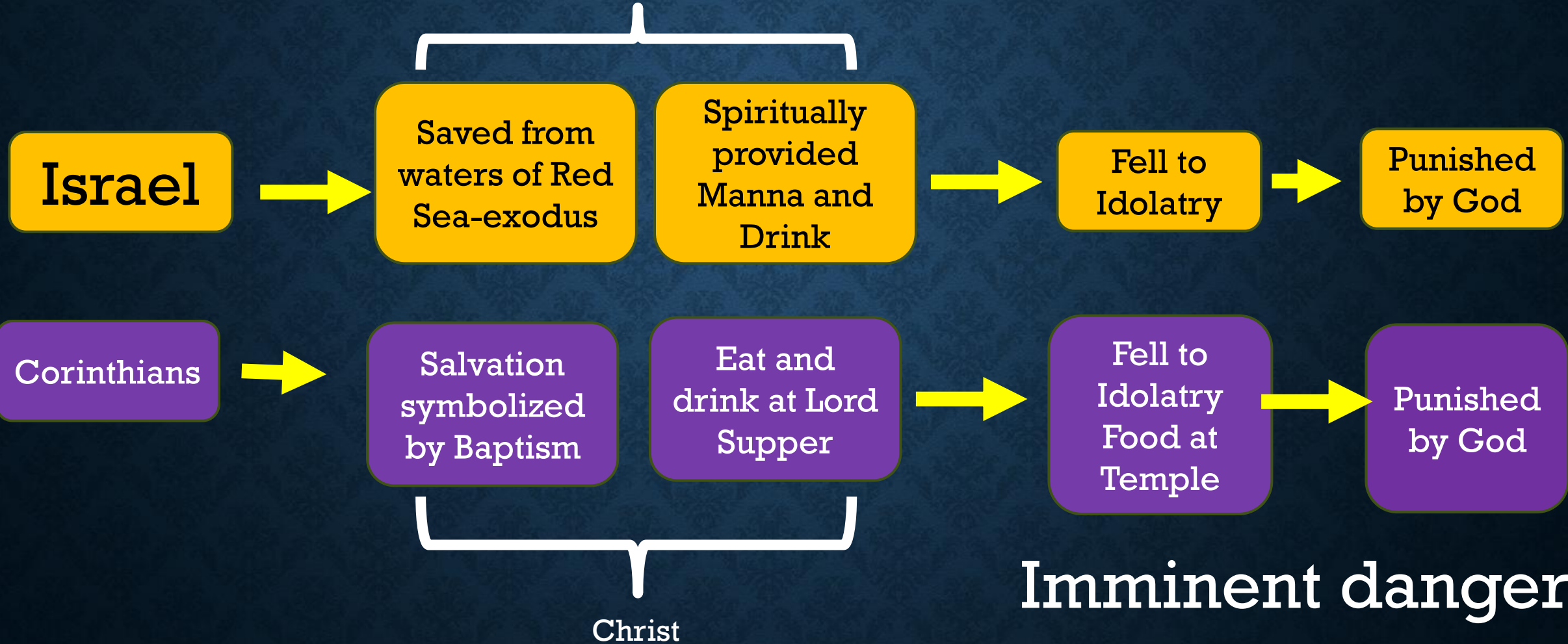
- Deuteronomy 32:18 (ESV) You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you and you forgot the God who gave you birth.

1 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV) Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did.

Jude 1:5 (ESV) Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.

# PARALLEL EXPERIENCE

God /Christ the Rock



## HEBREWS 3:16 -18

For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? 17 And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the

W **Disciplined by death** whom **Loss of salvation** would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient?

## B. WE NEED TO WRESTLE WITH DESIRE IN OUR OWN LIVES


Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not *desire* evil as they did...v6

## EXAMPLE 1

1 Corinthians 10:6-7 (ESV) Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written,

“The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

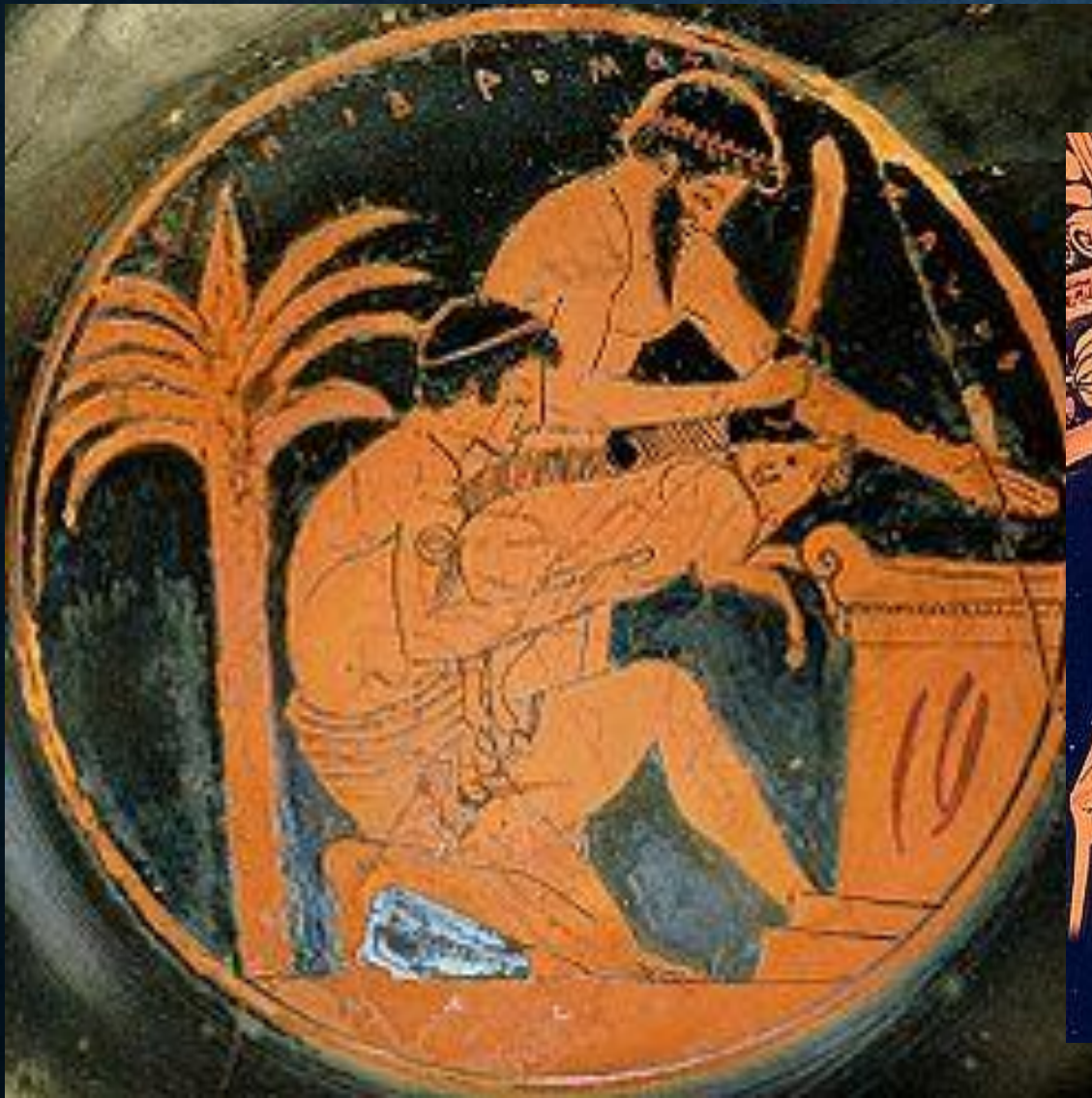




# Exodus 32:6 onwards

Israel ate cultic meal in presence of golden calf

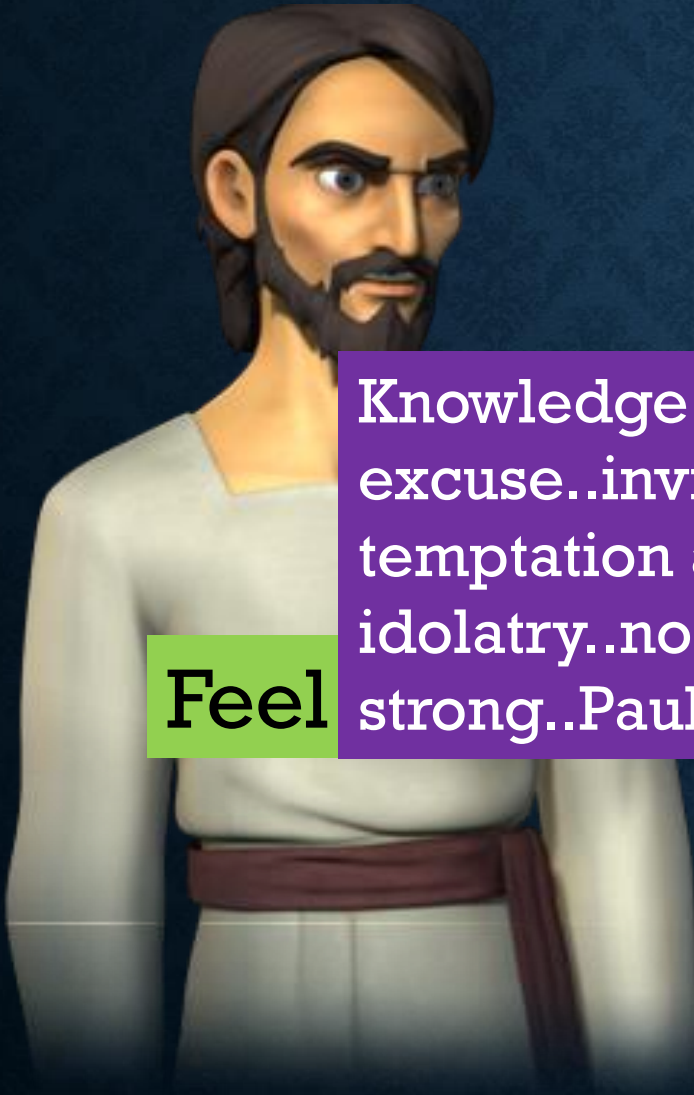
# TEMPLE CULTIC MEAL SOURCE OF TEMPTATION



**STRONG**

# Knowledge

**WEAK**



Knowledge is their excuse..inviting temptation and idolatry..not really strong..Paul is sarcastic

**Feel**



**Feels guilty**

## EXAMPLE 2-INDULGED SEXUAL DESIRE

1 Corinthians 10:8-10 (ESV) We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. 9 We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, 10 nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.

# NUMBERS 25

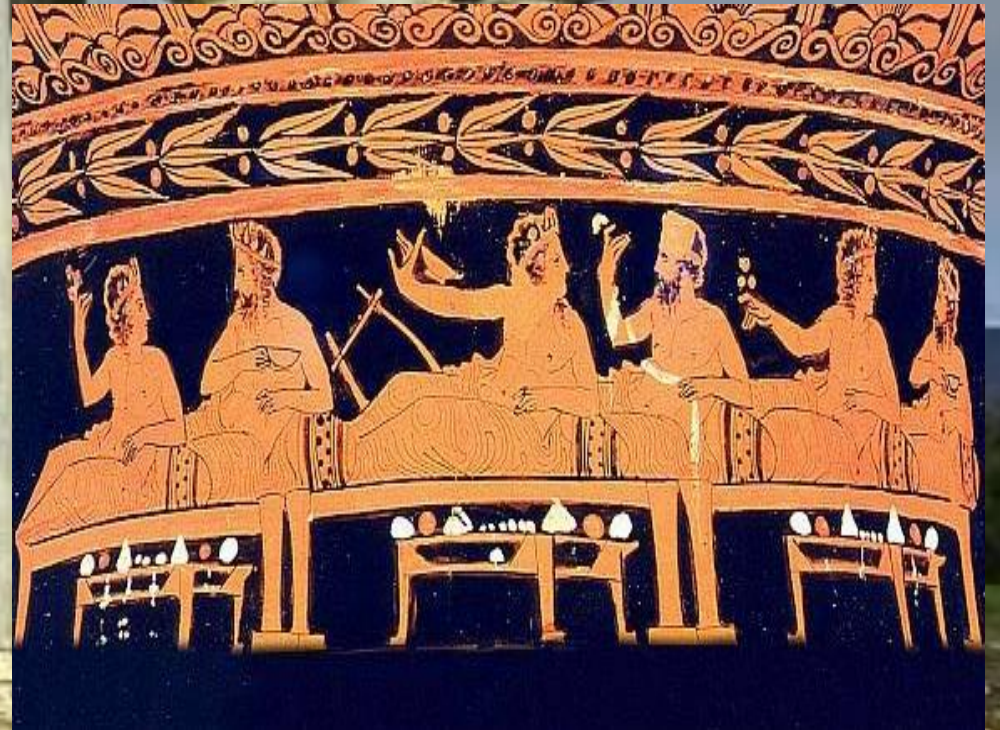
Sexual immorality linked to eating in presence of Idol Baal Peor



<http://www.pitts.emory.edu/woodcuts/1695Bibl/00005934.jpg>



# APHRODITE



## EXAMPLE 2-INDULGED SEXUAL DESIRE

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# GRUMBLING

Gogguzoo

(Gk-EnLex\_NT) to express oneself in low tones of disapprobation, grumble, murmur

Discontent

Against a person..loss of faith





Voice of unbelief

Unwilling to believe that  
God is allowing this  
disappointment to grow  
our faith

Preaching  
boring

Messy

**COMPLAINING**

Unfriendly

Food tasteless

Grumbling about person or circumstance is same as grumbling against God

## Just like Corinthians against Paul

Numbers 14:2-4 (ESV) And all the people of Israel **grumbled against Moses and Aaron**. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! 3 **Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword?** Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” 4 And they said to one another, “Let us **choose a leader** and go back to Egypt.”

# **GRUMBLING IS NOT**

Appealing to authority

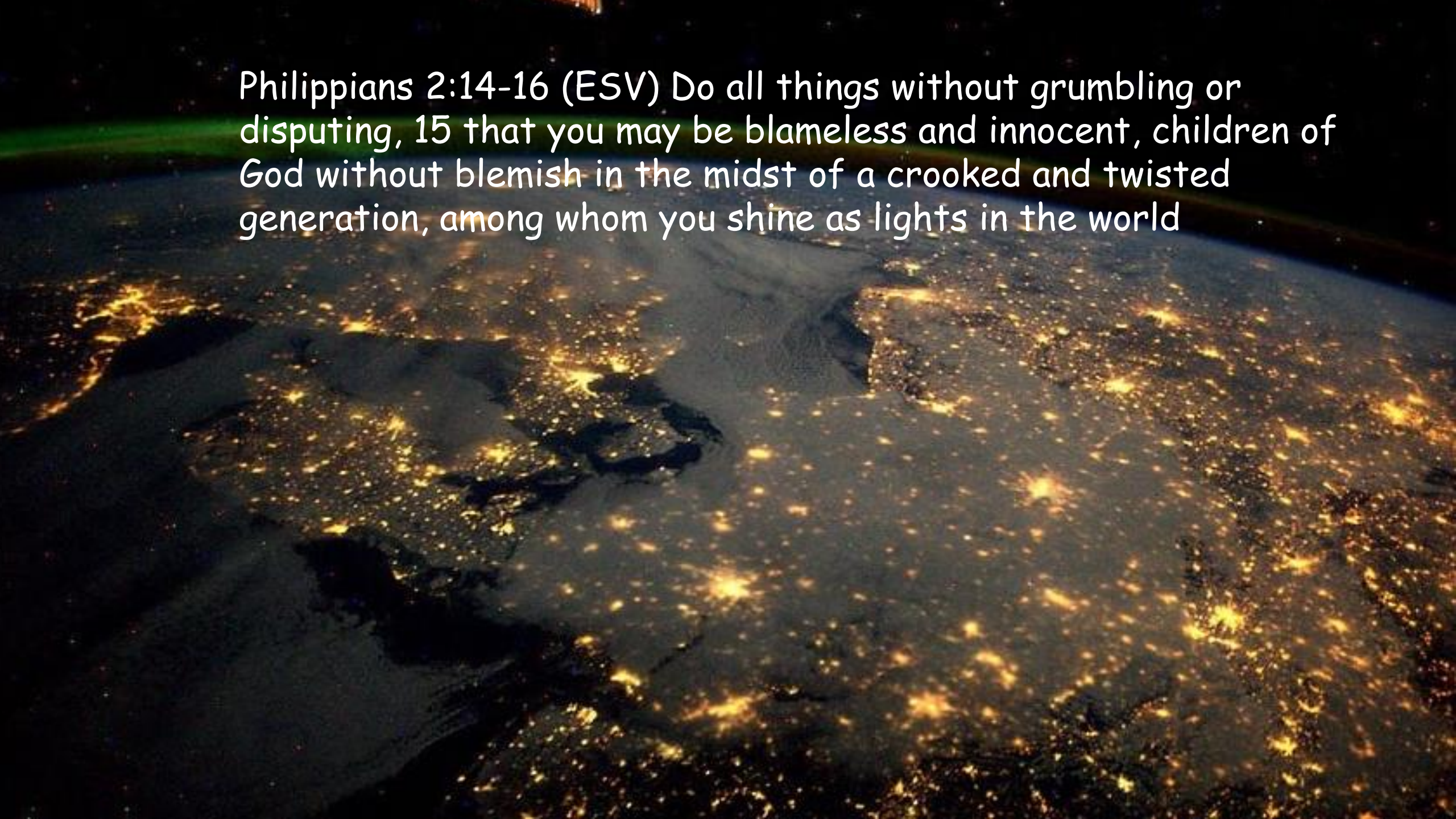
Expression of disagreement

Praying through our pain

# GODLY COMPLAINTS

- Psalm 69 Fear
- Psalm 85 Longing
- Psalm 137 Sorrow
- Psalm 102 Confusion
- Psalm 22 Desolation
- Psalm 74 Disappointment
- Psalm 88 Depression

Philippians 2:14-16 (ESV) Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world



## C. GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY TO ENDURE TEMPTATIONS

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (ESV) Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13 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.

# DON'T TELL GOD YOUR LIMITS

and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability,

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH



# Ekbasin



## D. WE NEED TO FLEE FROM IDOLATRY

1 Corinthians 10:14-15 (ESV) Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 15 I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say.

# TWO KINDS OF TEMPTATIONS

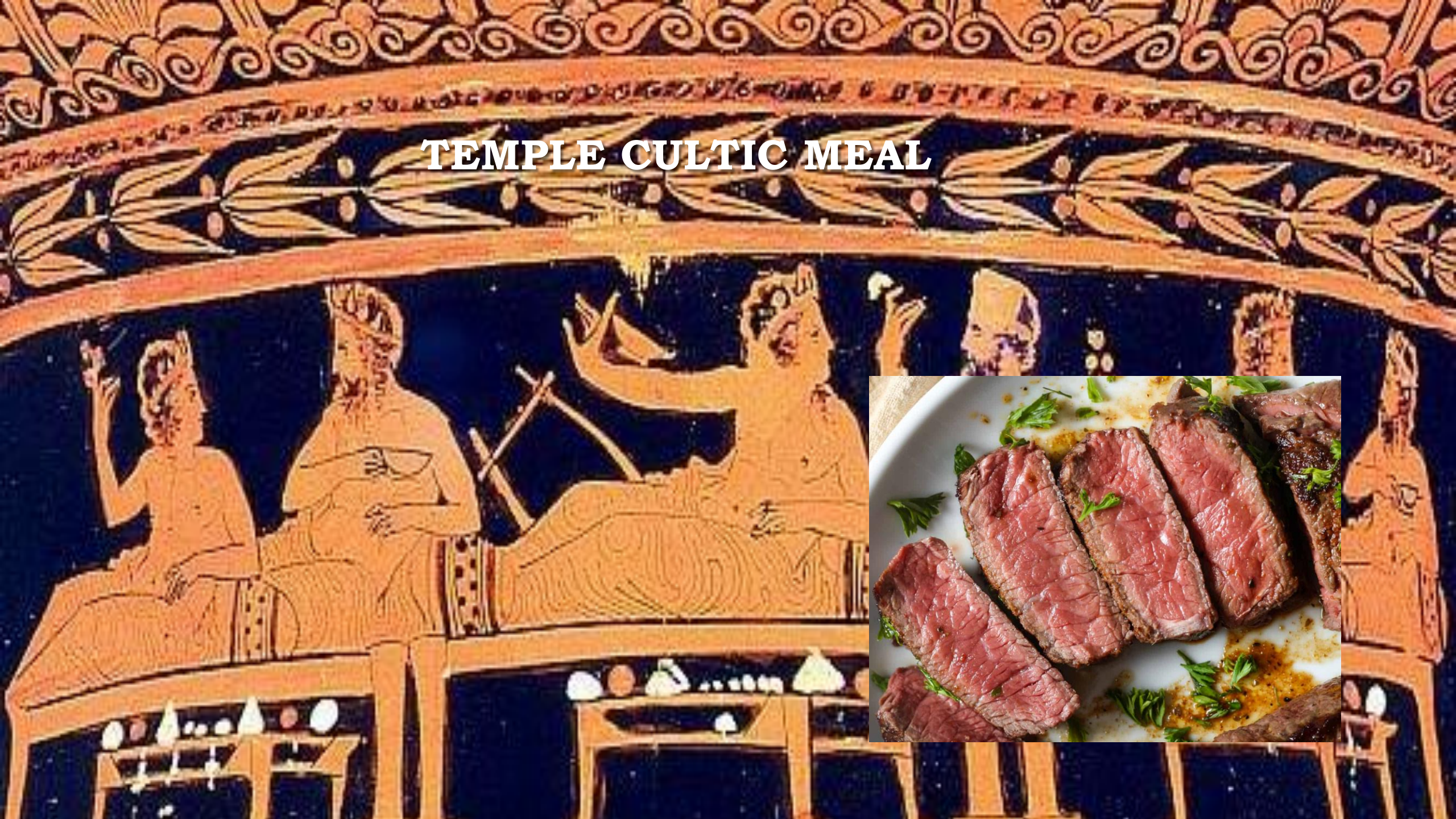
Normal common temptations

God will provide a way to  
endure the temptation  
No danger of falling

Pursuit of Idolatry

We have to FLEE from it  
Danger of falling  
Deliberate  
acts..overconfident  
Testing God  
Daring to judge..

# TEMPLE CULTIC MEAL



# THE GOSPEL AND AN IDOLATROUS CULTURE



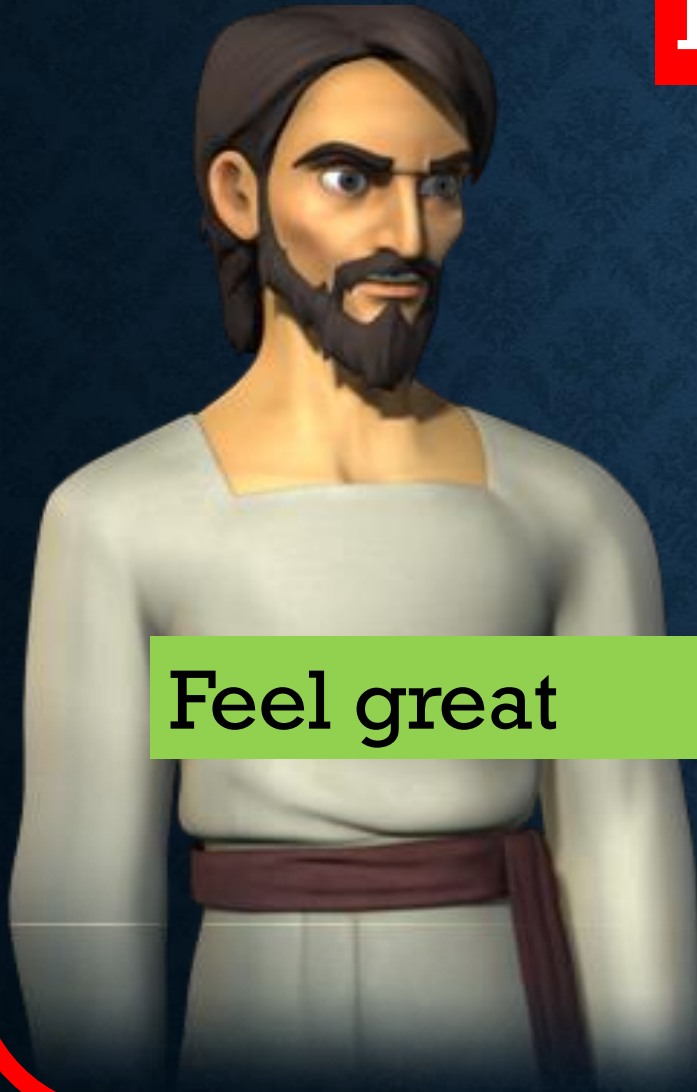
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**Dealing with temptation**  
Reject idolatry- Do not partake of food offered to idols

**STRONG**



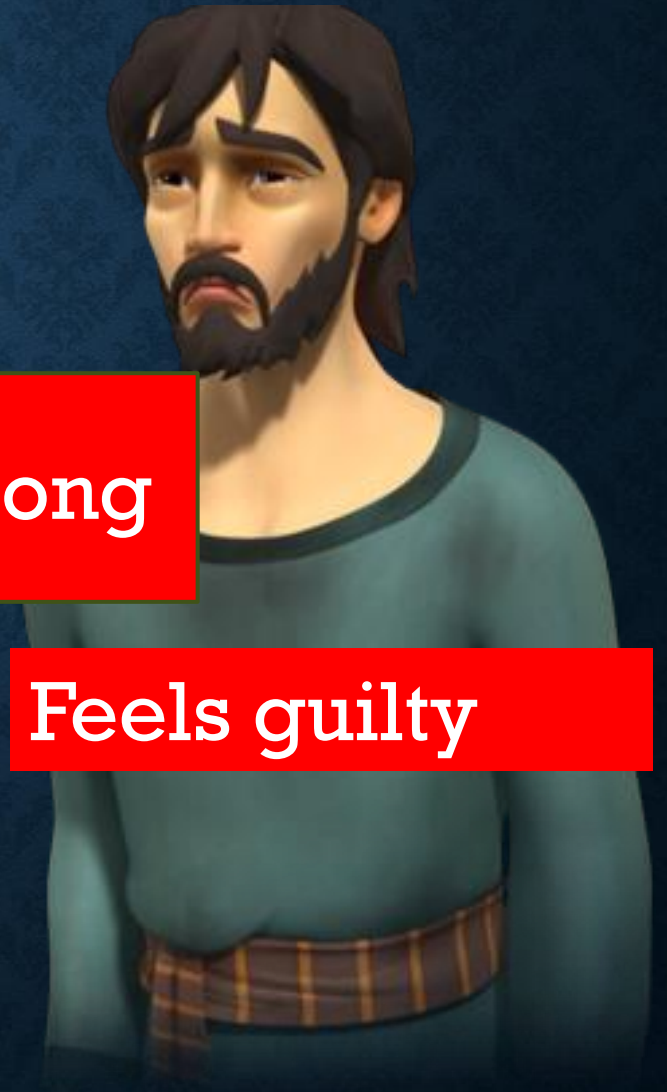
Feel great

Endangered



Drags them along

**WEAK**



Feels guilty

# OVERCONFIDENT-"SUPER SPIRITUAL"

1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (ESV) Therefore let anyone

**who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 13**

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.**

1 Corinthians 10:15-16 (ESV) I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. 16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ?



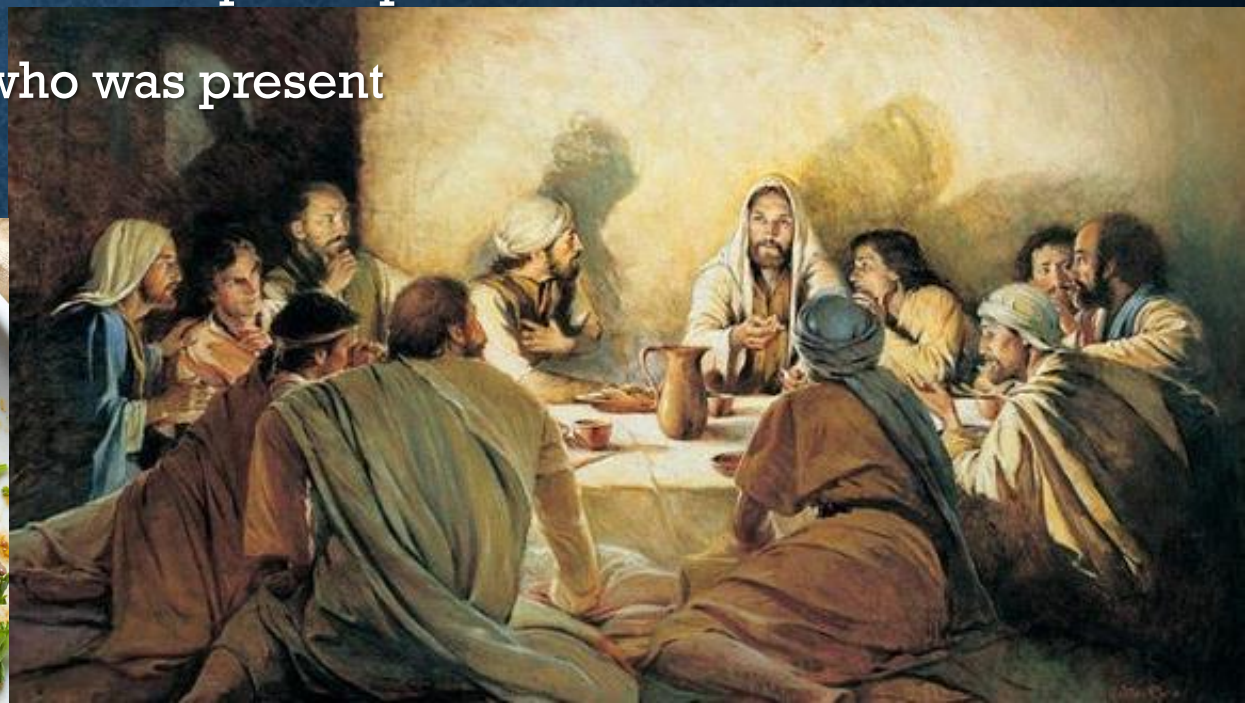
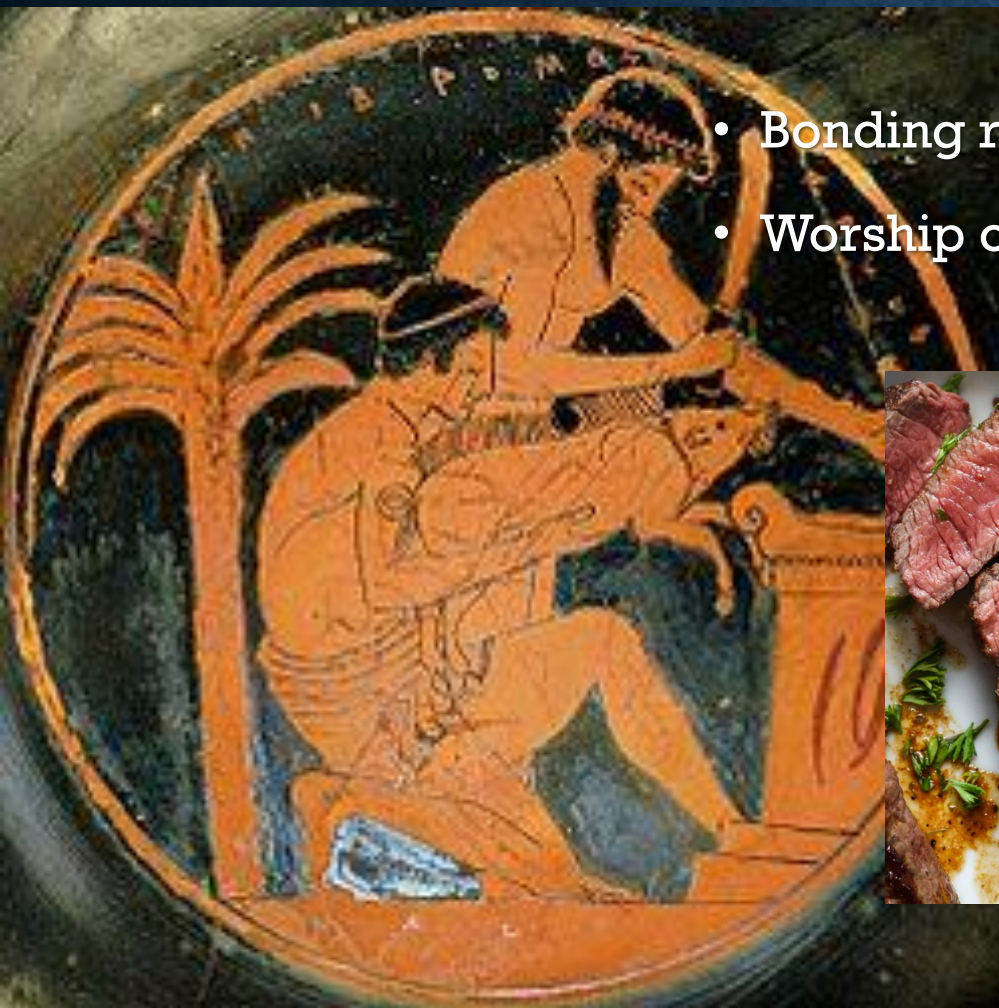
Pagan deity as host




Yahweh as host present




- Bonding relationship between participants
- Worship of the deity who was present





1 Corinthians 11:25-26 (ESV) In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

sharing in the provisions and benefits of that covenant



1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (ESV) 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.

**“partners” in the redeemed community, the new eschatological people of God.**

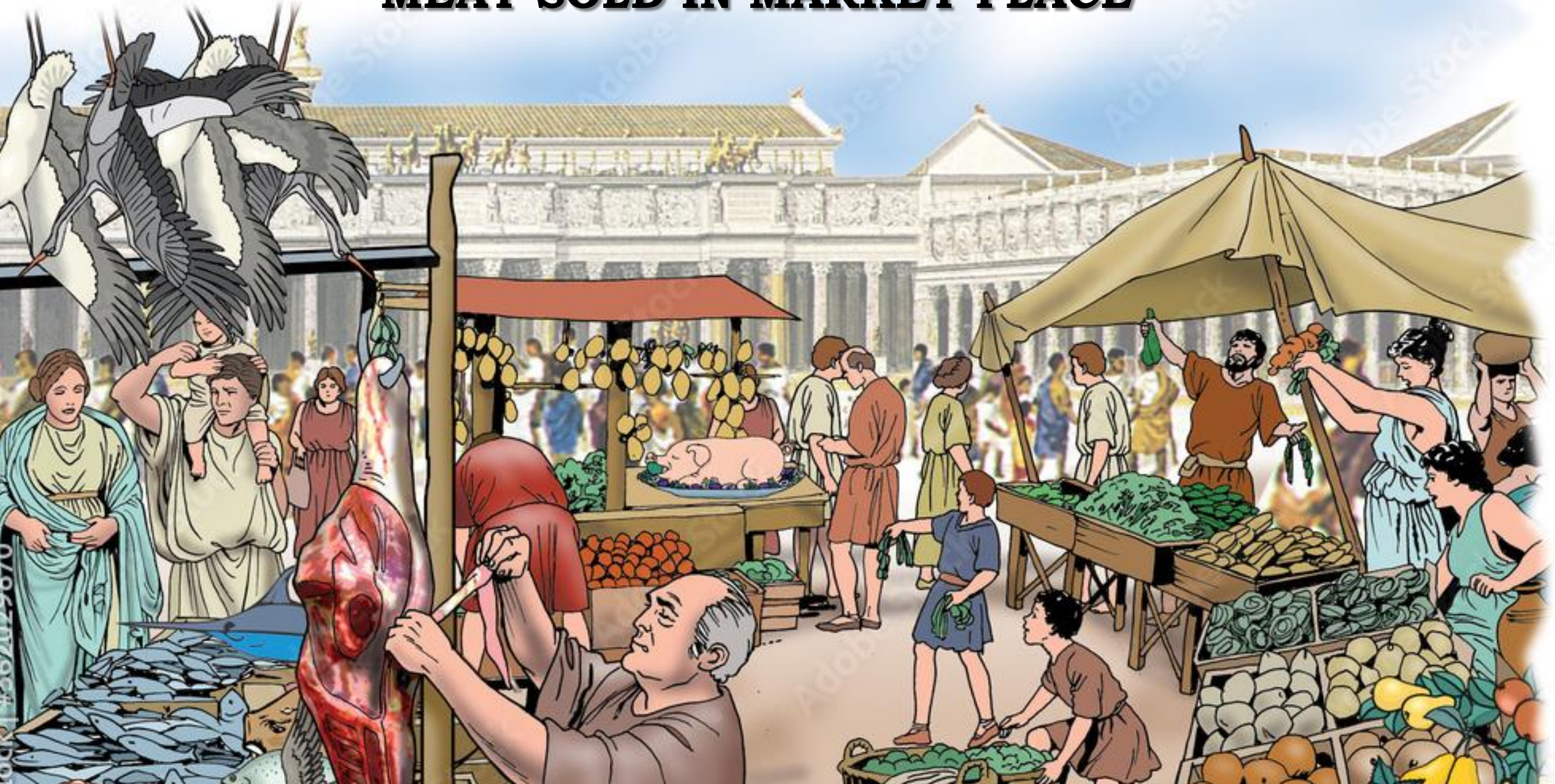
# THE SAME DANGER OF IDOLATRY ISRAEL FACED



1 Corinthians 10:18  
(ESV) Consider the  
people of Israel: are  
not those who eat the  
sacrifices participants  
in the altar?

1 Corinthians 10:19-22 (ESV) 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. 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?

# MEAT SOLD IN MARKET PLACE



## THE PRINCIPLE

1 Corinthians 10:23-24 (ESV) All things are lawful,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful,” but not all things build up. 24 Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.



To seek the things  
that build up

To seek the good  
of others

**PRINCIPLES OF LIVING**



## THE GOSPEL AND FREEDOM

1 Corinthians 10:25-30 (ESV) Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience. 26 For “the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.” 27 If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience

28 But if someone says to you, “This has been offered in sacrifice” then do not eat it,

for the sake of the one who informed you and for the sake of conscience— 29 I do not mean

your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? 30 If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?

# THE GOSPEL AND FREEDOM

1 Corinthians 10:31-33 (ESV) So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, 33 just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.

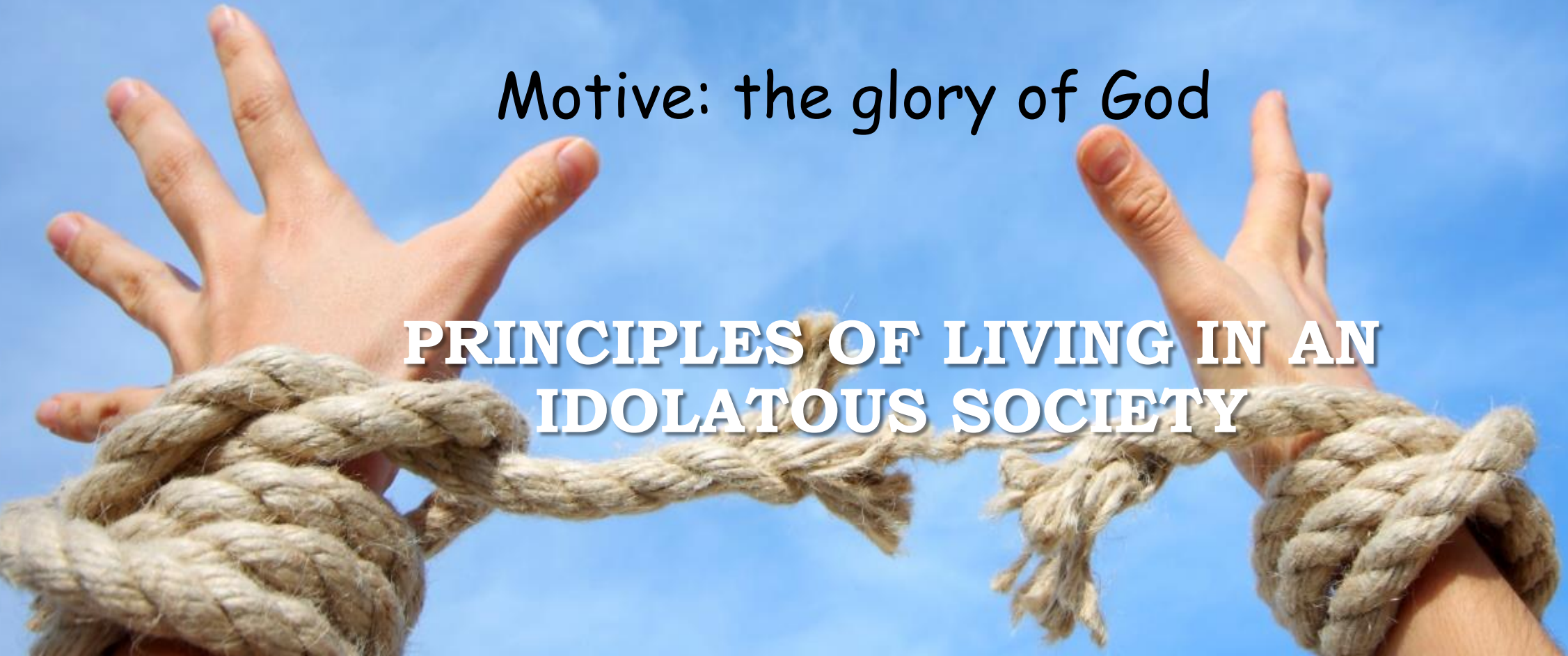
1 Corinthians 11:1 Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

To seek the things that  
build up..give no offense  
or stumble

To seek the good of  
others....the gospel

Motive: the glory of God

**PRINCIPLES OF LIVING IN AN  
IDOLATOUS SOCIETY**



# MARTIN LUTHER



"whatever your heart clings to and relies upon, that is your God; trust and faith of the heart alone make both God and idol."

## **HIDDEN IDOLATRY**

- Ezekiel 14 :4 “Son of man, these men have taken their idols into their hearts, and set the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces.”

# IDOLATRY = ADDICTION



An idol eventually will always take away our freedom.  
Powerless to help you



# WARNING

1 Corinthians 10:11 (ESV) 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.