

## He Knoweth Nothing Yet As He Ought To Know 1Corinthians Chapter 08 Commentary

Last Sunday we spoke to you about "For We Are Saved By Hope" from Romans Chapter 8, demonstrating that it does not mean that you cannot, or do not, know that you are saved. It simply means you are waiting for the redemption of your body in the resurrection. I mentioned this text, that I want to preach on today, in that sermon, because it is also a misused scripture. My intent, in preaching on these verses, is to give you the right understanding, and the means to give an answer, when you have these misconceptions put in your face. Hopefully, preparing us to be ready to give an answer.

Verse two, of this chapter, is a verse which I have heard used out of context all my life. And by the misapplication of the verse, taking it out of context; it was misunderstood; and used to teach that it meant: you couldn't know that you were saved eternally. Which is not the meaning at all, when viewed in the context of the chapter. We will read the whole chapter to get the full context in view.

**1 Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. 2 And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. 3 But if any man love God, the same is known of him. 4 ¶ As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol *is* nothing in the world, and that *there is* none other God but one. 5 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) 6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him. 7 ¶ Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled. 8 But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. 9 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. 10 For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; 11 And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? 12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. 13 Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.**

Verse one begins with "**Now**" which means that the subject under discussion is being changed. This tells us; this chapter is disconnected from the previous chapter and its subjects of discussion. If you have been born-again: you understand the phrase in verse one "***we know that we all have knowledge.***" The topic under consideration, in this chapter, is that of things offered unto idols, and whether it is right to eat of those things offer to idols. Therefore, the knowledge spoken of is that of idolatry and its practices. Understand also, eating things offered unto idols, in application to our lives today, means taking part in anything that is ungodly, or does not teach godliness. An example would be repeating jokes that are not clean and godly, which do not build up the name of God or edify you.

"***Knowledge puffeth up,***" As you have God given knowledge, which teaches you that an idol is nothing; and the things offered unto idols are nothing more than food to eat, and you may eat of things offered unto idols, knowing that it is not sinful. The problem with this is: with this knowledge

and understanding; you can become puffed up in vanity and pride and misuse this knowledge. This will cause you to look down your nose at others, who do not understand this.

As we see demonstrated in the rest of the chapter; your knowledge that eating things offered to idols is not sinful, in and of itself, yet if there are others that see you eat of things offered to idols, and their knowledge and understanding being limited, they may believe that it is a sin to eat of those things. Wherefore, your eating thereof may cause them to be offended, or may weaken their faith and trust in God, and thereby your puffed up knowledge, and eating of things offered unto idols, is now become an offense to one, or more, of God's children, who by your puffed up knowledge may be caused to err in the faith, or fall into the snares of idolatry.

**"but charity edifieth."** Edifieth means to build up, wherefore, you understand; to build up your fellow Christians you must exercise charity, which is love. This love here spoken of is found in the two great commandments given by Christ, seen in: **Mr 12:30-31; 30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. 31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."** If you are not puffed up in knowledge; you will abstain from eating things offered unto idols, for of the love of God and fellow Christians. Why? Because of this God given love, you would not cause your brother to be offended by your actions. Because of this God given love, you would not weaken a fellow Christian's faith and trust in God, by which action they may fall away to idolatry. This demonstrates **"but charity edifieth"** and shows that your love of God, and your fellow Christians, who are also children of God.

Verse two begins with **"And"** which is a conjunction and ties us back to the discussion of verse one. Thus, we see and understand, though a man has knowledge; that eating of things offered to idols is nothing more than eating food, yet, if he does not combine his knowledge with charity, love of his fellow Christians, then he does not understand as he should, **"he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know."** It actually demonstrates that he is puffed up in his knowledge; if he eats of things offered to idols in the presence of fellow Christians, who does not understand, and has not the fulness of your knowledge of the one eating of things offered unto idols. Understand; fellow Christians includes those who have already been born-again and those who have not yet been born-again.

Verse three begins with the conjunction **"But"** which demonstrates the continuance of the discussion. **"But if any man love God, the same is known of him."** This sums it all up for us. If a person loves God, they will also love their brother, and they will live and walk in a manner which demonstrates **"but charity edifieth."** Which demonstrates that he does love God and his brother. Others will be able to see that this person is not puffed up in knowledge and is living in harmony with the word of God.

Herein, we see demonstrated that used in context, this scripture is not teaching that you cannot know about being born-again and eternal salvation. May God help us all to rightly divide God's word of truth, and to teach the principles, and precepts, that God has set forth in them. I thank God, for exposing me to men, to whom he has given understanding, which have helped me to see the necessity of looking at scripture in context, to observe the grammar construction, and the whole teaching of the bible, before we speak in conversation, teach, or preach, upon a bible text. May God bless, and keep, us all in Christ Jesus, Amen!