

“THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD”
1 Corinthians 8:4-6

INTRODUCTION

Corinth was known for its wealth, luxury, affluence, athletics, education, philosophy and arts. This was not unlike many of our large modern cities today. It was progressive and cutting-edge in many aspects. It was also “progressive” in religion as well. There were numerous temples and numerous gods such as Apollo, Aphrodite, Poseidon and other Roman gods, as well.

THE CORINTHIAN CHURCH IS BIRTHED!

When the apostle Paul came on the scene, the Corinthian church was started. To the average Corinthian, Christianity was just another religion, like the others. With a closer look, however, it was unique in many ways. **“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?” 1 Corinth. 3:16.** Spirit-filled Christians were walking temples God! Also, rather than offering dead meat to idols, the followers of Jesus themselves were *living* sacrifices to God! **Romans 12:1.**

The Roman government mandated by federal regulation the worship of the emperor, who was revered as a god. Death was the penalty for violating this mandate. Worshippers of every other idol went along with that requirement. The members of the Corinthian church did not follow this, however, and thus occurred the “present distress” or persecution of believers, **1 Corinth. 7:26.**

ISAIAH’S ACCOUNT

Paul was certainly familiar with Isaiah’s account of Hezekiah being encouraged by Isaiah to trust in the true God, not to succumb to the false gods of the land or to man’s military powers. **Isaiah 36:14-20; Isaiah 40.** No doubt, Paul would have used this as encouragement to fight against the false gods of the land and opponents who trusted in these gods. If we submit to God, Satan the deceiver will flee! God will outlast all others! Let us be encouraged by the by the Biblical accounts of God’s power!

NEW GODS

Modern gods that we face that the Corinthians didn’t are the false gods of science and technology. Many feel science can cure the ancient problems of aging and death, the next logical step in evolution. Even redemption of the flesh is sought after, but only God can solve this problem through redemption of the soul and resurrection! Some even feel that science will do a better job than God! We were created by God, not the test tube. Bearing His image is the greatest possible dignity that man could ever have.

CONSIDER

God is a Father to us, slow to anger with care, pity, and compassion. **Psalm 103:8-15. 1 Timothy 3:15-16** was something Paul would encourage any church in. The church is the pillar or support of truth. God manifested Himself in the flesh to man! **Isaiah 9:6, John 1:1, John 10:30.**

Every person has to come to terms with the fact that Jesus is God. *Have you really examined the scriptures concerning this? Have you examined Him? Or have you fallen prey to the influence of the false gods of this age? Have modern pagan concepts clouded your thinking?* Let’s all pray that our minds would be renewed in the knowledge of Him through the study of the Word!

(All scripture quotations are NKJV).

PRAY

- *As elections approach, it reminds us to pray for our leaders and soon to be leaders! 1 Timothy 2:1-2.
- * For the Veterans Day Assembly on Monday, November 12th. Many vets need inner rest!
- * For thankful hearts as we consider what God has done for us. Let’s join together for a night of praise on Nov. 21st.