



Daily Reflections

September 10, 2016

Scripture

1 Corinthians 10: 14-22

My beloved ones, avoid idolatry.

I am speaking as to sensible people;
judge for yourselves what I am saying.

The cup of blessing that we bless,
is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ?

The bread that we break,
is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?

Because the loaf of bread is one,
we, though many, are one Body,
for we all partake of the one loaf.

Look at Israel according to the flesh;
are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?

So what am I saying?

That meat sacrificed to idols is anything?

Or that an idol is anything?

No, I mean that what they sacrifice,
they sacrifice to demons, not to God,
and I do not want you to become participants with demons.
You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and also the cup of demons.
You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and of the table of demons.
Or are we provoking the Lord to jealous anger?
Are we stronger than him?

Our Scripture Reflection

The Corinthians in their haughtiness are causing scandal to those who are new to the faith. They are going to the market to buy leftover meat that had earlier been sacrificed to pagan gods. What's the problem with a good deal on cheap meat you may be asking? They say to Paul that in their "mature faith" they are very well aware that pagan gods are unreal so eating the meat that had been offered to them means nothing, it's just cheap meat. Paul, always concerned about the faith of the "little ones, that is, those who are new to the faith, worries that these converts may not know the difference between real and unreal gods. He advises the haughty Corinthians to forego the cheap meat in deference to the wellbeing of the converts so as to prevent scandal and keep Peace.

Food for your Journey

If we're talking about God's Word, God's Word says that faith is the hope of things unseen. The essence of idolatry is demanding the beatific vision, demanding a direct encounter with the deity. Demanding that God make me happy right here and now, or demanding that God make me holy right here and now. Not being patient. Faith grasps the promise it has heard, whereas passion grasps that which it can feel and experience and see.

--Michael Horton, interviewed by Jamie Lee Rake, "Door Interview: Mike Horton," *The Door*, March-April 1999, 22.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, strengthen my faith and help me through my witness to You to support the faith of those who entertain doubts. Amen.