**1 Corin 10:14-22 14Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 15I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say. 16The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? 17 For we, though many, are one bread *and* one body; for we all partake of that one bread. 18Observe Israel after the flesh: Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? 19What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? 20Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. 21You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons. 22Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?**

Our world is full of idols. Anything that is distracting us from our Lord and Savior is an idol. We have so many idols that we can become blind and numb to them. People worship jobs, houses, bank accounts, kids, grandkids, boats, vacations, celebrities, and politics. We hear a constant spewing, an incessant drumbeat, a never ending stream of calls to worship this world.

Paul says something in our scripture that should perk our ears this morning. He says flee – literally, run away from idolatry in verse 14 *Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.*In this life, we are always moving either toward the Spirit or away from the Spirit. If we believe we are just sitting still, we’re drifting away. Jesus says we can’t be lukewarm. He says we can’t serve two masters. When we are running away from idolatry, we are running away from what the world calls us to worship. As Christians, this means we’re fleeing to the Spirit.

Paul speaks of the cup and the bread being the blood and body of Christ. Listen to verse 16 says - *The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?* The wafer and the juice we’ll use today is a representation of the blood Christ shed and the body that was broken. It’s a time of communion, not just with our brothers and sisters, but for our spirit to return to commune with Christ. It’s a time to shed the idols obscuring the Light of Jesus in our lives and to reconnect with the Power that is our Savior.

Verse 17 *For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.* When we are in Jesus, we are His body, we are His blood, we are one with Him and with one another. Though many, through Jesus, one. When we feel division or disagreement, disunity or dislike, this is a sure sign that an idol has entered the picture, that our pride in on the prowl. We must spot it and tear it down.

Look at verse 21 *- You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons.*I’m going out on a limb here - there are many who are trying to drink from the Lord’s cup with the right hand while holding on to the demon’s cup with the left. We’re seeking to serve two masters. We can’t. The result is that we will love one and despise the other. We must actively flee idolatry – we cannot be divided in our allegiance. A house divided cannot stand. Many take this to mean a church or a nation. But remember that we are the very dwelling place of God. To find that house divided, we may not have to go any further than to look in the mirror. How divided are you this morning?

Today, as we take this Communion, this is a time to truly examine our hearts. Are there idols there to be torn? Are there altars we are kneeling before that need to be destroyed? Are there priorities out of line? We must assign a price to the worldly in view of the Priceless. When we embrace Christ as Priceless, beyond measure of value, the most precious part of our existence, everything else begins to fall in line. Children become a gift again. Houses become a home again. Wealth becomes a tool again. Everything we have becomes surrendered to God again. Idols will fall only when Jesus towers above it all.

Verse 23 finishes - *Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?* To cling to idols and eat and drink with demons is to provoke God to jealousy. Exodus 34:14 says - *(for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God)*. As we prepare to partake of this table, examine and see the idols provoking God to jealousy. Flee from them today. Is there something causing separation between you and God? Flee from it today. God is a jealous God. He doesn’t share His precious children with demons. Don’t unconsciously ask Him to share by clinging to the idols of this world.

If you’ve never accepted Jesus, today is the day to do that. We’re either serving Him or we’re serving the world. Make no mistake, there are only two teams. World or Spirit. Which one would Jesus say you’re playing for today?