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Concerning Our Freedom in Messiah 8:1 to 11:1



Ordinarily the Greeks and Romans burned the less desirable portions of an animal in the course of their **sacrifices** and retained the choice parts for personal consumption at **pagan temple banquets** celebrating **the sacrifices**. If a **sacrifice** were made in connection with a state function, **the meat** which remained was frequently sold in **the marketplace**. **The Corinthians'** questions apparently concerned **(1)** the acceptability of buying and eating **meat** from one of those **sacrificial animals**; **(2)** the acceptability of eating this **meat** as an invited guest in **a friend's home**; and **(3)** the acceptability of attending one of these **pagan temple sacrifices** and enjoying the meal of celebration which followed in **the temple precincts**. **Paul** spoke to each of these issues.²¹² As with going to prostitutes in **the pagan temples (6:12-20)**, **the Corinthians** argued that **they** had the "right" to continue those practices. Therefore, as we shall see, although the details relate to another era of history, the underlying principles are very relevant for life in today's world.