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What is the over-all thread of this letter?

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Israel is an example of a people who, despite experiencing God's blessings, still willfully ignored His good, embraceable, and perfect plan.

As a result, they faced discipline for their disobedience.

God's discipline is never meant to be punitive but always redemptive.

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As a result, they faced discipline for their disobedience.

- Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.
- Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.
- No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.

 God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability,
 but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.





¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. ¹⁵ I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. 16 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? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. 18 Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar?



¹⁹ What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. ²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. ²² Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?





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1 Corinthians 12

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⁴ And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord." ⁶ And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

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Deuteronomy 32 – The Song of Moses

15 But Jeshurun grew fat, and kicked; you grew fat, stout, and sleek; then he forsook God who made him and scoffed at the Rock of his salvation. 16 They stirred him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked him to anger. 17 They sacrificed to demons that were no gods, to gods they had never known, to new gods that had come recently, whom your fathers had never dreaded. ¹⁸ You were unmindful of the Rock that bore you, and you forgot the God who gave you birth.

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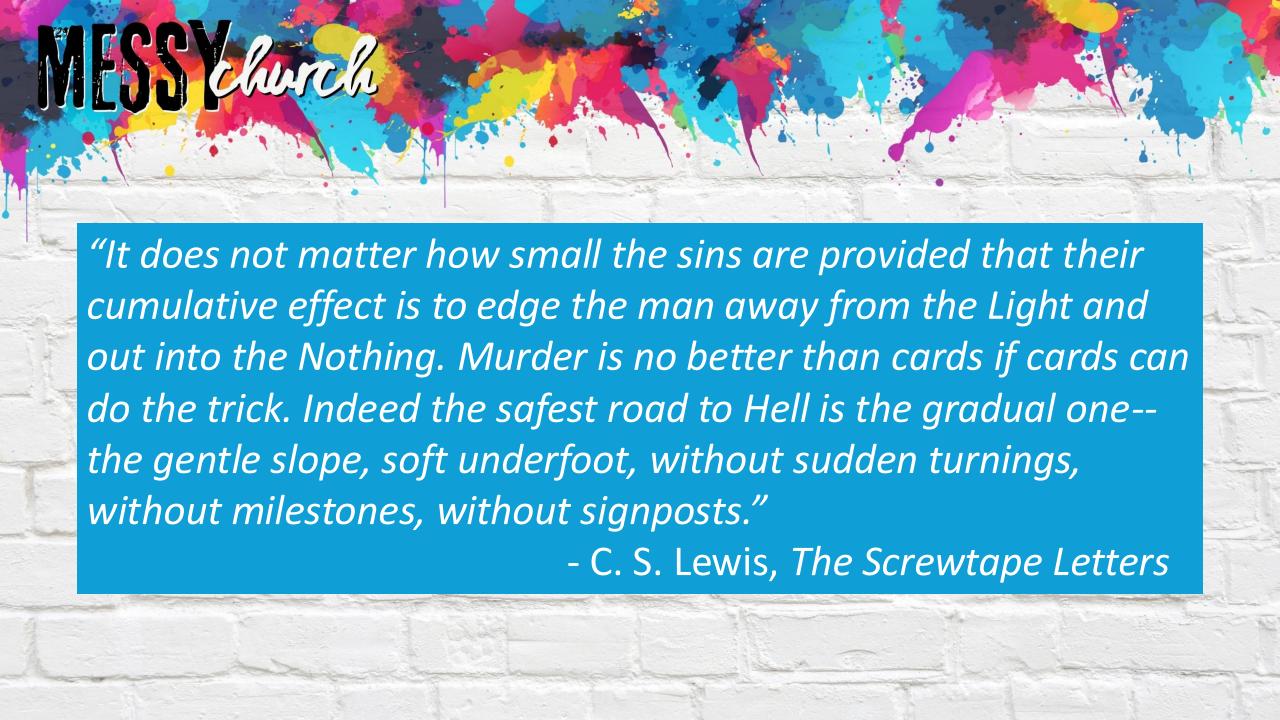


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Run! Because this is a chase, not a race





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So...Brokove, What now?



So... Borefore... what now?

Flee from idolatry!

So...Berefore...What now?

Flee from idolatry!

What idols are contaminating your spiritual walk?

So... Berefore... what nows

Psalm 135

- ¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands.
- ¹⁶ They have mouths, but do not speak; they have eyes, but do not see;
- ¹⁷ they have ears, but do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths.
- ¹⁸ Those who make them become like them, so do all who trust in them.

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So... Borefore... what now?

Recognize the deceptive power and danger of idols in your life

So... Berefore... what nows

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Disordered loves will lead to disordered lives

So... Borefore... what nows

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"Prosperity knits a man to the world. He feels that he is finding his place in it, while really it is finding its place in him."

- C. S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters

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