

2. Christian Liberty (8:1-11:1)

A. Matters of conscience – Part 1 (8:1-13)

1) More than _____ is needed to decide on matters of conscience (8:1-6)

a) The need for love

b) True knowledge _____ matter, though (8:4-6)

(1) There are no other Gods, but One

(2) Even if there were many gods, there is only one that matters to us (5)

2) Love means restricting my _____ so as not to _____ a fellow Christian (8:7-11)

a) Some Christians don't understand this fully (8:7)

b) Know the relevant truth (8:8)

c) If I stumble a weaker brother, then I have:

d) Therefore, avoid what will influence a weaker brother to _____ (8:13)

3) Application:

B. Matters of liberty (digression) (9:1-27)

1) Servants of the Lord have _____ as others (9:1-6)

2) Servants of the Lord have a right to be _____ (9:7-12)

... he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Co 9:6-7)

a) Application:

3) Paul voluntarily set aside his rights (9:15-18)

a) Paul's boast (9:15) (see 9:18b)

b) Paul's emphasis

You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs. (Phil 4:15)

Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:17-19)

4) Controlling principle for serving (9:19-23)

... I have become all things to all men, so that I may by all means save some. (1 Cor 9:22)

5) Serving requires discipline (9:24-27)

6) Application:

C. Matters of Conscience – Part 2 (10:1-33)

1) Example of Israel (10:1-13)

a) Israel had an intimate relationship with God (10:1-4)

b) God not pleased with them (10:5)

c) What went wrong? (9:6-10)

d) Consequence (10:5, 8)

e) Lesson for us today (10:6, 11)

2) WARNING & PROMISE (12-13)

3) Do not participate in _____ (10:14-22)

a) Flee idolatry (10:14)

“For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay upon you no greater burden than these essentials: that you abstain from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication; if you keep yourselves free from such things, you will do well. Farewell.” (Acts 15:28-29)

b) Christian worship is participation _____ (10:14-18)

c) Idol worship is participation _____ (10:19-22)

d) Don't provoke God to _____ (10:22)

4) Principles in determining whether an activity is right/wrong (10:23-33)

a) What is _____ for others (10:23-24)

b) Let _____ be your guide (10:25-30)

(1) _____ something if your conscience doesn't bother you

(2) _____ if someone else's conscience has a problem (10:28-30)

c) Will eating/doing this bring glory to God (10:31-33)

D. Apostolic precedent – imitate me “Paul” (11:1)

E. Application: