



Christian Liberty (Part I)

Romans 14:1-12

#18 in a series on Romans

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March 14, 2010

Theme: **Use Your Freedom In Christ Responsibly.**

The Description Of Christian Liberty.

1. What does it cover?
 - a. Some examples. (2, 5; cf. 17; Colossians 2:16-17)

 - b. Some principles. (cf. Galatians 5:1, 13; Colossians 2:16-17; 1 Peter 2:16)

2. How is it to be practiced?
 - a. Loving acceptance of others. (1-4; Romans 13:10)

 - b. Firm conviction. (5; cf. 22-23; 1 Corinthians 8:7-9; Galatians 5:1; Colossians 2:16-17)

 - c. Dedicated living for God. (6-9; cf. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 10:31)

 - d. Prepared to give an account to God. (10-12; cf. 1 Corinthians 3:12-15; James 2:12)

Looking ahead:

March 21 The Dangers Of Christian Liberty (14:13-23)

March 28 The Duties Of Christian Liberty (15:1-13)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Yesterday we took the first of three looks at Christian liberty which Paul deals with in chapters 14-15. Read these two chapters. How do you describe the kind of liberty we see here? How do you feel, what do you think about this liberty? How well do you accept and live by it? How well do you accept, allow and encourage others to live by it?

Tuesday. In the first part of chapter 14 Paul deals with two examples of things in which we have freedom—eating or not eating certain foods and observing or not observing special days (verses 2 and 5). Why is there freedom to choose to eat or not eat, to observe or not observe? List some other things that fit into this area of freedom.

Wednesday. Christian liberty is an important, positive and refreshing gift of God. Beyond understanding what it is and is not, there are some guidelines to practicing it properly and enjoying its benefits. For example, Christian liberty is exercised properly only when it is built on a base of loving acceptance of others—particularly those who are non-eaters or observers if you are an eater or non-observer (see verses 1-4). In which things is this most difficult for you?

A second guideline is to make your choice based on a firm conviction (see verse 5). What is one danger of not having a firm conviction, according to 1 Corinthians 8:7? Take a look at 1 Corinthians 10:23-33. How do you put having a firm conviction in areas of freedom together with a loving acceptance of those who make differing choices?

Thursday. Starting in verse 6 Paul tells us another guideline governing our liberty is that those choices, and all that we do or not do based on them, are to be made as part of living for God. Go back to 1 Corinthians 10 and zero in on verse 31. Can you spot choices and actions in the area of freedom where you are not really doing it for the glory of God?

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to continue examining our liberty in Christ, focusing on some dangers. Read 14:13-23 in preparation for our time together.

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