

The Following Message is Message #085B

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED

Text: I Corinthians 6:12; 10:23, 33

Introduction

I. The Lord has used my children teach me many lessons

My relationship with them taught me much about correction-disciple

I have learned what it means to grow and mature. Little babes have to be monitored constantly. As they grow-hopefully they will not have to be taught same thing over and over again

Has they grow-mature-should gain discernment.

Should be able to make judgments based on teaching and instruction given them

I KNOW IS DOES NOT ALWAYS WORK THAT WAY- Teenagers

ONE SIGNS OF MATURITY NOT HAVE TO BE MONITORED ALL THE TIME

II. Same thing is true spiritually

We are to grow-Bible makes that abundantly clear

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen.

NOTICE GROW IN KNOWLEDGE AS WELL

1 Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

TRAGICALLY MANY HAVE NOT DONE THAT

Hebrews 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

Many problems associated with that-one not able to discern things

Hebrews 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

MANY ARE NOT ABLE TO CONSIDER THINGS FROM A SCRIPTURAL PERSPECTIVE

III. The Bible is not just a list of rules

There are clear commandments given to us in the Word of God

THERE ARE NOT SUGGESTIONS-ARE CONSEQUENCES TO BREAKING THEM

Often hear people talking about the freedom we have in Christ

I rejoice in that but we need to understand what that means-Not mean we are sin freely

Such teaching is a mark of an apostate

Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bible makes it plain about our freedom

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS THAT WE COULD DO THAT WE SHOULD NOT DO

Warren W. Wiersbe put it this way, "Freedom does not mean I am able to do whatever I want to do. That's the worst kind of bondage. Freedom means I have been set free to become all that God wants me to be, to achieve all that God wants me to achieve, to enjoy all that God wants me to enjoy."

We need to be able to apply principles in the Word of God to all situations

HEAR PEOPLE SAY ALL THE TIME BIBLE DOESN'T SPEAK ABOUT...and they name their topic

IN REALITY IT DOES-WE NEED TO KNOW THE PRINCIPLES TO APPLY

Called often to apply these in the word of God

1 Corinthians 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Proverbs 28:5 Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things.

Try to give you some of these principles as we talk about

All Things Considered

We are going to look at that phrase "all things" in a few places here in I Corinthians

Get clear guidance for those areas may not be directly addressed in the Word of God

Notice the first principle that is given to us in passage that we read, call it principle of

I. Expedience

A. Notice the phrase used to introduce this thought

He says that all things are lawful-things not against the Law of man or law of God

TIMES THESE ARE AT ODDS ONE WITH ANOTHER-PETER'S ADMONITION

Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**

PAUL IS NOT SAYING HERE HAS THE RIGHT TO DO ANYTHING

Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

SAYS THERE IS A LOT OF THINGS HE COULD DO BUT SEE CHOOSES NOT TO

B. Because they are not expedient

This word that is similar to expedition-journey

That is what you are on with your Lord-in this journey there are many things you could do

Not all of these things will help you in this journey and because of that they should be avoided

Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

MANY PEOPLE ARE WEIGHTED DOWN TODAY

THEY THINK JUST BECAUSE WHAT THEY ARE DOING NOT SIN THEN IT'S OK

On thing we could use to illustrate this is: Entertainment-many things not say they are bad

Ephesians 5:16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

How many times do we complain about not having enough time to serve the Lord?

How much time spent in front of televisions, listening to music, or reading books and magazines that are not beneficial to our walk with the Lord

C. One of the best things you can ever do is discern God's will for your life

There are many things we could do that might be helpful-but should be avoided if it is not what God want for us.

-Why run for a political office if it is not what God have me to do

-People say they want a Godly spouse-then the way they go about trying to find one is wrong

THE WAY SO MANY ARE GOING ABOUT FINDING ONE IS NOT EXPEDIENT

We can talk about things such as Debt and Sports activities along with many others

They may not be evil in and of themselves-they are not helping us in our walk with the Lord

OFTEN WE SEEM TO HAVE IDEA "IT'S ALL ABOUT MY ENTERTAINMENT"

Nothing could be further from the truth

The second principle is found in the same verse-we will call it the principle of:

II. Enslavement I Corinthians 6:12

A. Notice again same words are given

There are many things he could do-they are lawful

NOTICE HE SAYS NOT BE IN BONDAGE TO ANY OF THESE THINGS

Again there are a lot of habits-practices involved in find ourselves in bondage to

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

B. Again many illustrations of this can be given

-Debt-many are in bondage

Proverbs 22:7 The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

-Tobacco and cigarettes

-Gambling

-Cell phones-young people

-Internet-email

-Television-people know TV Guide better than their Bible

-Opinion of others

C. Some say silly-not in bondage to them

TRY DOING WITHOUT THEM SEE HOW WELL YOU DO

Try not smoking a cigarette taking a dip

Try turning off cell phones-no text messaging

1 Corinthians 9:25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

1 Corinthians 7:31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

BEST WAY TO AVOID BONDAGE-BE AWARE OF DANGER

STAY AWAY FROM A LOT OF THINGS COULD DO-NOT GOOD FOR YOU

Again some may protest "It's my life. I can do what I want to!"

Who lied to you and told you it was your life. If you are saved you belong to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Our third principle we will consider is that of:

III. Edification I Corinthians 10:23

A. This passage begins with that familiar phrase

We have already discussed the statement made at the beginning of the verse

Adds another dimension to what he is talking about

NEED TO LEARN THE ROLL THAT WE PLAY IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

Romans 14:7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

Understand how my actions affect those around me

B. Notice the example he gives in our passage

It is one that Paul often referred to Romans 14; I Corinthians 8

1 Corinthians 8:13 Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.

SADLY MANY ARE MORE WORRIED ABOUT OUR RIGHTS THAN RESPONSIBILITIES

THERE ARE TIMES FOR SAKE OF WEAKER BROTHER THAT YOU MUST LET YOUR RIGHTS GO

C. We need to ask this going to be beneficial to my brother and sister in Christ

Ephesians 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

-Church attendance

Deuteronomy 1:28 Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

1 Corinthians 14:26 How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying.

2 Corinthians 12:19 Again, think ye that we excuse ourselves unto you? we speak before God in Christ: but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your edifying.

The final principle we will look at is that of:

IV. Evangelism I Corinthians 10:33

A. This was the one great overriding principle in the Life of Paul

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.

Romans 9:1-3 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:

HE DESIRED TO SEE MEN COME TO FAITH IN CHRIST I Corinthians 9:19-22

AWARE THAT IT NOT WORK FOR EVERYBODY "Some"

I Like what Matthew Henry said about him:

"He would transgress no laws of Christ to please or humor any man; but he would accommodate himself to all men, where he might do it lawfully, to gain some... He would not sin against God to save the soul of his neighbor, but he would very cheerfully and readily deny himself. The rights of God he could not give up, but he might resign his own, and he very often did so for the good of others...A heart warmed with zeal for God, and breathing after the salvation of men, will not plead and insist upon rights and privileges in bar to this design.

B. This should that not be in our hearts as well

Henry goes on to say:

"If a man has his heart on the conversion of people and the salvation of the world, it will go far to regulate his conduct in reference to many things concerning which there may be no exact and positive law. It will do much to regulate his dress; his style of living; his expenses; his entertainments; his mode of contact with the world. Such a grand leading purpose is a much better guide to direct a man's life than would be exact positive statutes to regulate everything, even if such minute statutes were possible."

We should ask ourselves, "If a lost man saw me doing this or heard me saying this would I be able to witness to him."

WHAT A BLESSING TO JUDGE OUR LIFE BY THESE PRINCIPLES

Titus 2:10 Not purloining, but showing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

If you are not saved-please permit me a few more references that uses our phrase.

1 Peter 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

Colossians 1:20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

TRUST JESUS AND BE SAVED NOW