



### Lesson 53 Answers and Comments

Eat	all	teaching
Hair	lawful	denying
Tattoos	judge	ungodliness
Property	meat	worldly
Crops	drink	lusts
Clothes	holyday	soberly
Rest	moon	righteously
Work	Sabbath	godly
Not	days	love
Law	private	constraineth
Grace	interpretation	died
Redeemed	spiritual	all
Curse	spiritual	dead
Law	worthy	died
Handwriting	walk	all
Ordinances	love	live
Against	conversation	not
Took	becometh	live
Nailing	worthy	themselves
Cross	pleasing	died
Without	every	them
Law	work	blessedness
Liberty	worthy	
Free	ought	
Yoke	walk	
Bondage	please	
All	grieve	
Lawful	grace	

Have you faced any “what should I do” situations lately? I pray our study of God’s law verses grace principle has been of help to you. We will continue to study God’s grace principles for choosing the things that please the Lord.

## Lesson 54 Grace Principles for Making Decisions

I Cor. 10:23 “All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.”

Read I Cor. 10:23-33. We are going to study through some wonderful truths in these verses concerning the making of decisions in “questionable” situations.

God wants Paul to lay some ground work at the start. Twice in our verse in I Cor. 10:23 Paul says “all things are lawful for me”. This must be important. Lawful means allowed or permitted. Does God mean to include in the “all things” murder, adultery, hatred, envy, etc.? Let’s check some scriptures.

Col. 3:8 “But now ye also put \_\_\_\_\_ these; \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ communication out of your mouth.”

Eph. 5:18 “And be \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_, wherein is excess...”

Eph. 5:3, 4 “But \_\_\_\_\_, and all \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, let it \_\_\_\_\_ be once named among you, as becometh \_\_\_\_\_; vs. 4 Neither \_\_\_\_\_, nor \_\_\_\_\_, nor \_\_\_\_\_, which are not convenient...”

“All things are lawful for me...”

I must admit that I have by no means come to the end of my study on these verses. So please check my study out with your own.

I believe that the “all things” in our verse are limited to those things where we don’t have any direct instruction by God. I’ve come to this conclusion based on the scriptures we just looked at in Eph. and Col.

With this in mind let’s continue to look at our verse in I Cor. 10:23 “all things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient:... all things edify not.”

Expedient – suitable, profitable for my desired goal. As believers, our liberty is to be governed by expedience. Our choices should be placed under the magnifying glass of expedience.

When faced with a “should I or shouldn’t I” situation, where we have liberty, we first should ask ourselves:

1. Is this choice expedient? Will it be suitable to my “sainthood, son-ship position” in Christ? Will it be profitable to my desired end result, which is to please God? Paul had a desired goal, end, aim for his life. Phil. 1:21 “For to \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, and to die is \_\_\_\_\_.” And our verse from last week I Cor. 10:31 “...and whatsoever ye do, do all to the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.” Paul’s life goal was to live for and bring glory to the Lord Jesus Christ. This needs to

be our heart's desire for our lives also. I think that if we ask ourselves these questions there will be very few gray areas.

### **Lesson 54 Continued**

2. Is this choice edifying? Will others be built up, instructed, encouraged in spiritual growth by my decision. Paul goes on to say in verse 24 "Let no man seek his \_\_\_\_\_, but every man \_\_\_\_\_ wealth." This is an underlying principle of grace that brings responsibility to our liberty. Setting our own desires aside in favor of another's good.

We can be so "self centered and self indulgent – Rom. 14:19 "Let us therefore follow after the things which make for \_\_\_\_\_, and things wherewith one may \_\_\_\_\_ another."

Rom. 15:1, 2 "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please \_\_\_\_\_. Vs. 2 Let every one of us \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ for his \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_."

Phil. 2:4 "Look not every man on his \_\_\_\_\_ things, but every man also on the things of \_\_\_\_\_."

These two principles of expediency and edifying applied to our liberty in Christ will give us the direction we are looking for in those "iffy" times. Many times believers want to "pray for God's guidance" like it's some sort of "feeling" or "mystical leading" to show them the way. We would be better served to prayerfully consider our actions in the light of God's will revealed to us in these grace principles.

Paul had an opportunity to visit the Corinthian saints but thought the better of it at that time because he knew that a visit at that time would be hard on them. He applied the principles of expedience and edification to his decision. II Cor. 2:1 "But I \_\_\_\_\_ this with \_\_\_\_\_, that I would \_\_\_\_\_ come again to you in \_\_\_\_\_." These grace principles work powerfully in our decision making.

Next week we will move on in our passage and see just what these Corinthians were in such a quandary about.

