

1 CORINTHIANS

Correcting the Church

“Christian Liberty in the Balance”

INTRO: *In chapters 8-10, Paul answers a second question posed by the Corinthian church. This question concerned Christian liberty. The specific issue was participation in pagan festivals at which foods offered to idols was served. Were Christians free to participate or not, and what happens if there are different convictions within the church? In his response, Paul provides a balance to Christian liberty.*

- I. The exercise of Christian _____ must balance _____ with _____ (8:1-3). Key concepts must be defined in context: Liberty is the freedom that Believers exercise in the “gray areas” of life. Knowledge is the revelation that Believers live by grace (as opposed to law) in these “gray areas”. Love is prioritizing people over principles & personal convictions.**
- II. “_____” Believers cannot enjoy the same liberties as “_____” Believers because they do not share the same appreciation of _____ (8:4-8). Though all Believers have received the same revelation of grace, convictions on what constitutes acceptable behavior in the “gray areas” differ.**
- III. From _____, defer personal convictions to a “_____” Believer’s _____ (8:9-13). Personal convictions and principles do not trump our mandate to love our Christian family. Paul was not commanding that a stronger Believer surrender his convictions but *choose people over principles*.**