

Christian Liberty & Christian Love

Romans 14:13-23

I. In this corner...the dispute between ‘the weak’ and ‘the strong’

“What the weak lack is not strength of self-control but liberty of conscience.” -John Stott

II. How are we to use our Christian liberty around others?

“Happy is the man who can use Christian liberty without abusing it.” -J.C. Ryle

A. We must never let our Christian liberty harm another (v.13-15)

I Corinthians 9: 19 For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

“A Christian man is a most free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian man is a most dutiful servant of all, subject to all.” -Martin Luther

John 13:35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Matthew 18: 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

B. We must remember that the kingdom of God is not about externals (v.16-18)

C. We must purpose to build up those who differ with us on matters of conscience (v.19-23)

“A Christian is the greatest freeman in the world...yet in regard to love he is the greatest servant.”—Richard Sibbes

I Peter 2: 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

The Big Idea: Christian Love must always govern our Christian Liberty!