

First Corinthians 6:12-20

Clarifying Christian freedom—6:12

- 1) Is it spiritually beneficial to myself and others within the congregation?—¹² *All things are permissible for me, but not everything is advantageous* (to other believers). (cf. 10:23)
- 2) Is it potentially domineering to me individually?—*All things are permissible for me, but I* (emphatic) *will not be controlled by anything.*
 - a) Oh how dangerous is the attitude of “I have a right as a Christian to do this!”

Seeking to maintain proper perspective of our physical body—6:13-17

- 1) You are more than your physical appetites—6:13a ¹³ *Food is for the stomach and the stomach for food, but God will do away with both this* (the stomach) *and them* (food).
- 2) Our bodies are devoted to Christ—*Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.* (i.e. Christ desires to rule our bodies and use them for His service and glory.)
 - a) Our bodies will be resurrected—6:14 ¹⁴ *Now God indeed raised up the Lord and will also raise us up through His power.*
 - b) Our bodies must be kept in proper perspective—6:15-17
 - i) Value in relationship to Christ—¹⁵ *Do you^{pl} not know that your^{pl} bodies are the members of Christ?* (assumed Yes)
 - (1) Some relationships are incompatible—*Should I therefore take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!*
 - ii) Based on an assumption—¹⁶ *Do you^{pl} not know that the one who is joined to a prostitute is one body?* (assumed Yes) *For He says, “The two will become one flesh.”* (cf. Genesis 2:24)
 - (1) ¹⁷ *But the one who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.*
 - (a) The resurrection of Christ guarantees the resurrection of our body.

Teaching about the specific sexual immorality of prostitution—6:18-20

- 1) A negative command—6:18a ¹⁸ *Run away from sexual immorality.* (cf. Genesis 39:12)
- 2) Sexual immorality is destructive to our body—6:18b *Every sin that a person does is outside the body, but the one committing sexual immorality sins against his own body.* (by keeping it from being available to serve and glorify Christ as is God’s design)
- 3) A reminder of Who owns our body—6:19-20a ¹⁹ *Or do you^{pl} not know that ...*
 - a) Holy Spirit—*your^{pl} body is the inner sanctuary of the Holy Spirit who is in you^{pl}, whom you^{pl} have from God,* (cf. Luke 24:49; John 14:26; 15:26; Acts 1:4; 2:33)
 - b) Ownership because of the cross—*and you^{pl} are not your^{pl} own,*
 - i) Why? ²⁰ *for you^{pl} were purchased at a price.* (cf. 1st Peter 1:19)
- 4) A positive command—6:20b *Therefore, glorify God in your^{pl} body, and in your^{pl} spirit, which are God’s.* (i.e. Live to enhance God’s reputation in the world.)
 - a) The external physical body and the internal spirit are the means by which we offer service for God for His glory.