

L73 | I Corinthians | I Will Not Be Brought Under the Power of Any | 1 Cor. 6:12-20

I. Intro/Review:

- **Questions**

1. Is Paul saying this is the wisdom of God is that all things are lawful unto me?, or is this the world's wisdom saying this?
2. What does lawful mean?
3. Does being washed, sanctified, and justified make unrighteousness permissible, legal, and right for the believer?

- **"All things are lawful unto me"**

1. According to the law of Moses
2. According to the law of men
3. According to the law of Christ
4. According to the heavenly places
5. According to the rules of sports

- **"all things are lawful unto me,"**

- The world and the spirit of the world manifest in one way by their laws and what they deem as legal and right is still the wisdom of the world.
- In other words, we cannot justify unrighteousness because it is permissible by the world's norms and standards, their laws, etc.
- **Obs. #1 - "all things"** - the list of unrighteousness
 - Paul is stating the thought and the reality that "all things are lawful unto me".
- **Obs. #2 - "are lawful"**
 - Definition - Webster's 1828 - agreeable to law; conformable to law; allowed by law; constituted by law; legal; rightful
 - By whom?
 - 20x's - "world" is used up to this point
 - The wisdom of the world
 - The wise
 - The scribe
 - The disputer
 - The prudent
 - The Greeks
 - The Jews
 - The mighty
 - The noble
 - The things that are
 - The enticing words
 - The spirit of man

- The spirit of the world
- The natural man

- 1 Cor. 5:10
 - 1) "**fornicators**" - hedonism (pursuit of or devotion to pleasure and the avoidance of pain)
 - 1) Body
 - 2) "**covetous**" - materialism
 - 1) "extortioners" - materialism
 - 2) Others (objects)
 - 3) "**idolaters**" - religionism
 - 1) God
- 1 Cor. 5:11 - what the Corinthians are doing
 - 1) Fornication - 1 Cor. 5
 - 2) Covetous - 1 Cor. 10:25
 - 3) Idolater - 1 Cor. 10:20-21
 - 4) Railer - 1 Cor. 1-4
 - 5) Drunkards - 1 Cor. 11:21
 - 6) Extortioners - 1 Cor. 6:1
- 1 Cor. 6:9
 - 1) Fornicators
 - 2) Idolaters
 - 3) Adulterers
 - 4) Effeminate
 - 5) Abusers of themselves with mankind
 - 6) Thieves
 - 7) Covetous
 - 8) Drunkards
 - 9) Revilers (strife and envy)
 - 10) Extortioners

- **Summary** - these lists form the basis of the things that are in which "are lawful", but because we are washed, sanctified, and justified they are not expedient.

- **Obs. #3 - "unto me"** - what the world freely gives unto you, or what God has freely given unto you
 - Noting motion towards a place opposed to from
 - "all things"
 - What? Sin, unrighteousness
 - From where? The world

- **Quick Notes**

- Paul would when needed use the laws of men to his advantage concerning ministry, yet disobey the laws of men when they went against the righteousness of God that grace teaches us.

- Paul would agree with the law of Moses when it concerns its holiness, righteousness, and goodness, but teaches that the law doesn't fulfill itself - therefore, grace through faith agrees with the law that it is holy, just, and good, but not in the "use" or "work" of it to fulfill it. Using the law to fulfill its righteousness would be our own righteousness - the law is not of faith - faith is trusting in Christ not yourself.
 - Rom. 13:8, 10 (Gal. 5:14)
 - 1 Cor. 9:8-9
 - 1 Cor. 14:34

II. Preview:

- All things are not expedient
- I will not be brought under the power of any

III. Sermon:

{:12} - "All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any."

- "but all things are not expedient:"
 - Paul isn't only explaining what not to do, but why?
 - "but" - adverse conjunction
 - "all things" - the lists
 - "are not expedient"
 - "expedient"
 - Definition | Webster's 1828 | hastening; urging forward. Hence, tending to promote the object proposed; fit or suitable for the purpose; proper under the circumstances.
 - That which serves to promote or advance; any means which may be employed to accomplish an end.
 - Unrighteousness is not fit, suitable, or proper under the circumstances that we are washed, sanctified, and justified.
 - Unrighteousness is not fit, suitable, or proper for the purpose of the kingdom we inherit and the vocation by which we are called.
 - If you're a servant of righteousness then serving unrighteousness is not expedient to your servanthood of righteousness
 - Translated | profitable, profit, better, good
 - **Romans 1:28** - "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things

which are not convenient;"

- God never made the mind for ungodliness
- God never made the body for unrighteousness
- Man with their reprobate mind did those things not fit and suitable for their purpose
- In Christ God has put us in the position to use our mind and body for that which is expedient, that is, for Him.
 - To be renewed in the mind to do good works.
- **Question #1** - What is expedient?
 - Don't wrong your brother, don't defraud brother, don't go to law before the unjust.
 - Rather suffer, take wrong, forgive - suitable to matters of the life to come; and things that pertain to the life to come.
 - 1 Cor. 10:33 - "Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of man, that they may be saved."
 - Grace and charity as given in the Word of God. (Your life, what God has given unto you)
- **Obs. #1** - The laws of men may say sin and ungodliness is right, but it isn't expedient to who we are, what we are called to, to our vocation, etc.
 - Are we doing that which is expedient?
 - Do we know what is suitable and fitting to who God has made us to be in Christ?
 - Do we know our vocation and what things are for that purpose?
 - Are we taking that knowledge and wisdom into everything?
- **Usage**
 - Matt. 5:29-30
 - Matt. 18:6
 - Jn. 16:7
 - Acts 20:20
 - 1 Cor. 7:35, 10:23, 33, 12:7
 - 2 Cor. 8:10, 12:1
 - Heb. 12:10
- **"but I will not be brought under the power of any."**

- All things are lawful - sin, but I will not be brought under the power of any
- **"power"** - to have power or authority, use power; to be master of any one, exercise authority over one
 - To be master of the body
 - To have full and entire authority over the body
 - To be brought under the power of anyone
 1. Sin and unrighteousness
 2. Before the unjust
- "my body - my choice"
 1. All unbelievers are made in the image of God, their body belongs to sin - sin is their master
 2. Declaration of their choice to sin, because they think their body is their own are in most agreement that their body is the body of sin
 3. Should not be a surprising thing - although it is very sinful to slaughter innocent blood.
 4. Ultimately, God will reckon all things with what you do with what He gave you according to His holiness and righteousness.
 - Your body was made by God
 - For a believer our body is bought by God
- For us as believers it is not being brought under the power of any unrighteousness, of any sin.
 - We are to live through the power of the Holy Ghost
 - 1 Cor. 2:5 - "not in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."
 - 1 Cor. 4:19 - "not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power."
 - 1 Cor. 4:20 - "not in word, but in power."
 - 1 Cor. 5:4 - "with the power of the Lord Jesus Christ."
 - 1 Cor. 6:14 - "by His own power"
 - Romans 6
 - 2 Cor. 6:7 - "the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness"
 - 2 Cor. 13:4 - "through weakness, yet He liveth by the power of God."
 - Col. 1:13 - "from the power of darkness...kingdom of His dear Son:"
 - Col. 2:10 - "complete in Him...head of all principality and power:"
 - 1 The. 1:5 - "not in word only, but also in power"

IV. Conclusion:

- The apostle Paul wants to give discernment to the Corinthians. In order they not make judgments based upon what they can get away with according to what is lawful to them - but
 1. What is expedient - looking to purpose and that which is fitting
 2. What is the power - that which steers you, that which influences you, who is the master