

Selected Puritans

“To consider how dear our sins cost Christ may cause tears to distil from our eyes. Christ is called the Rock (1 Cor. 10:4). When his hands were pierced with nails, and the spear thrust in his side, then was this Rock smitten, and there came out water and blood. And all this Christ endured for us: ‘the Messiah shall be cut off, but not for himself’ (Dan. 9:26). We tasted the apple, and he the vinegar and gall. We sinned in every faculty, and he bled in every vein: ‘Flesh like love engraved on the whole body’.

Can we look upon a suffering Savior with dry eyes? Shall we not be sorry for those sins which made Christ a man of sorrow? Shall not our enormities, which drew blood from Christ, draw tears from us? Shall we sport any more with sin and so rake in Christ’s wounds? Oh that by repentance we could crucify our sins afresh! The Jews said to Pilate, ‘If thou let this man go, thou art not Cesar’s friend’ (John 19:12). If we let our sins go and do not crucify them, we are not Christ’s friends.”

~ **Thomas Watson (1620-1686)**

The Doctrine of Repentance (pg. 81)

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Psalm 19:1-6

Song #23 ~ Creation Sings the Father’s Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 74:1-23

Song #108 ~ Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 75:1-10

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 14:20-21

Prayer

Lord’s Supper

Song #15 ~ Behold Our God!

Jeremiah 10:6

There is none like You, O Lord; You are great,
and great is Your name in might.

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Text: Romans 14:20-21

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

- I) When you partake of something that causes your brother in Christ to stumble into sin, you are tearing down the work of God (v. 20; cf. v. 15b).
 - A. What does the work of God refer to?
 1. The work of God according to the parallel passage (v. 15b) refers to the individual person.
 - B. How do you tear down a person?
 1. You cause him to stumble into sin by going against his conscience (cf. v. 13 and v. 21).
 2. Before you talk about your favorite movie, you ought to pause and consider that this discussion may cause your brother in Christ to watch a movie that goes against his conscience.
 3. Notice that there is a difference between causing a brother in Christ to sin and offending a brother in Christ.
- II) All things are lawful (v. 20; cf. v. 14, 1 Cor. 10:26).
 - A. Notice that Paul adds the word “indeed” to confirm that all things are clean. Paul assumes that there will be some pushback to this argument.
 - B. Even though all things are lawful, what should we be concerned with before we do anything?
 1. Is it profitable (cf. 1 Cor. 6:12; 1 Cor. 10:23)?
 2. Will I become servant to it (cf. 1 Cor. 6:12)?
 3. Will it enable me to build up my brother or is it merely for my own benefit (cf. 1 Cor. 10:23-24)?
- C. Even though all things are lawful or clean, that thing becomes unclean when your conscience is bothered by it (v. 20; cf. v. 14).
 1. It is evil for you to partake in something that bothers your conscience.
 2. It is evil for you to partake in something that causes your brother to go against his conscience.
- III) Stop partaking in things that cause your brother or sister in Christ to stumble into sin (v. 21; cf. v. 13).
 - A. To refrain from your Christian liberty is good (v. 21).
 1. It is good because it is presenting yourself as a sacrifice (cf. Romans 12:1).
 - B. Paul does not limit his application to food and drink. You should refrain from anything that could cause your brother to stumble into sin.