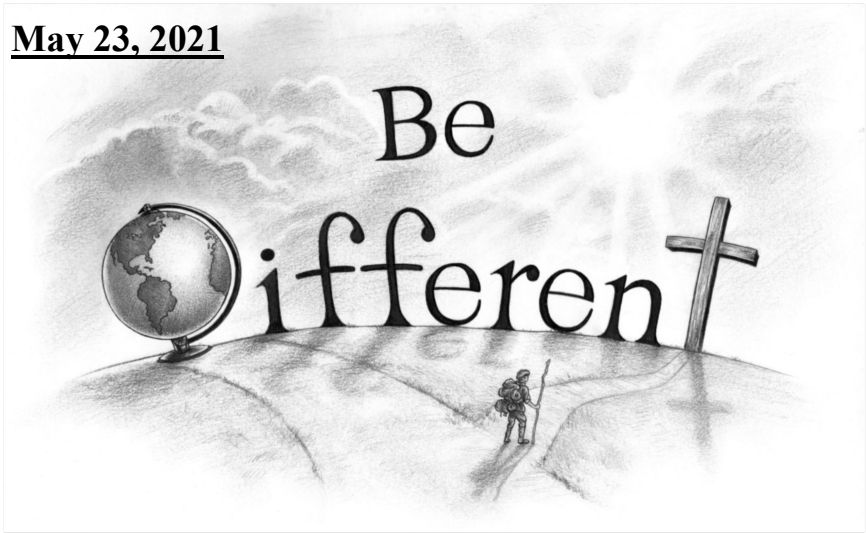


May 23, 2021



Liberty or Love?

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

The Knowledgeable

- Understood what God made clean no idol could defile.
- Had confidence and security in their faith.
- Used their knowledge to puff themselves up in pride and shame the weak.

The Weak

- Could not separate eating food offered to idols from idol worship.
- Had an insecurity in their faith in God.
- Used their insecurity to restrict the knowledgeable.

- 1) **Where God has given freedom no idol can take it away. (1 Cor. 9:1-12, 10:23-32)**
- 2) **Right theology applied without love is wrong. (1 Cor. 8:7-13, 9:12-27, 10:31-33)**

If ever you are torn between demanding your right to liberty or pouring yourself out in love, choose love!

Memory Verse for 2021

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:11–14

Scripture to Pray

Romans 14:13-15

“Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died.”

From the Resources

“Why is ‘being right’ not the be-all of everything? Paul does not deny that the logic of ‘the strong’ is faultless as far as it goes, but is this enough? Would it go too far to suggest that without a caring, loving concern for others who may see things differently, ‘being right’ can bring confusion, minister to moralism and judgementalism, and even perhaps destroy fellow believers?”

- 1 Corinthians: A shorter Exegetical and Pastoral Commentary
By: Anthony C. Thiselton