

Wisdom Revealed

Sunday, September 1, 2019

Scripture & Key Points

...“disputable matters” are seen to be issues that are not essential to the message of salvation, but are secondary matters over which believers disagree.

Romans Commentary from St Helens

Wisdom Revealed

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

1. Is this **profitable**? vs. 12a
“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are **helpful**.
2. Is this **controlling**? vs. 12b
“All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be **dominated** by anything.
3. Is this **biological or eternal**? vs. 13-17
But he who is joined to the Lord **becomes one** spirit with him. vs. 17
In his Screwtape Letters C. S. Lewis says each time a man or woman enters in a sexual relationship a spiritual bond is established between them which must be eternally enjoyed or eternally endured.
John MacArthur - Romans
4. Does this reflect **gratitude**? vs. 18-20
You are not your own, for you were **bought with a price**. So glorify God in your body. vs. 19b-20

Jesus Paid It All

I hear the savior say
Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness, watch and pray
Find in me thine all in all

**Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow**

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and thine alone
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone (**chorus**)

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete
Jesus died my soul to save
My lips shall still repeat (**chorus**)



Ice Breaker

- The sin Paul confronts in this passage was commonplace in Corinth. They had an “everybody is doing it mentality.” As a child or teenager, what is one of the dumbest things you ever did because everyone else did it? How did it impact your life at the time? Were there any long term consequences?

Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. What is the specific sin Paul is confronting in these verses?
2. Even though Paul is clearly providing reasons not to engage in sexual sin, the application includes how to make decisions for any aspect of our lives. Several weeks ago we examined Romans 14:1-12 and the fact that Christians differ on some “disputable issues” such as Bible translations, music, social drinking, tattoos, etc. In the Christian community, what are the most prevalent “disputable issues”?
3. In vs. 12a, the word “helpful” can also be translated profitable. If you are investing for retirement, do you expect your financial planner to be profitable? If he isn’t, what occurs?
4. Every decision we make has either a profit or loss for the future. What difference would it make if every attitude or action was considered in light of the price we pay?
5. Verse 12b references the principle of not engaging in what dominates or controls us. We live in a culture of addictions that enslave us. What do you see in American culture that dominates us? Consider good things that can become warped.
6. In verses 13-17, Paul provides the parallel of food. A saying of his day was that “*Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food.*” The implication is that eating and sex are just biological functions. Is this true for both eating and sex? (Genesis 2:24)
7. Re-read vs. 17. The objective of marriage and salvation is to become one. What questions should we ask ourselves about the eternal, spiritual, and relational aspects of decisions we make?
8. Consider the thought by C. S. Lewis. Based on the Bible and this quote, does sexual sin carry a heavier price tag than some sins? vs. 18b
9. Based on verses 19-20, what should be the primary motivations for all decision-making?
10. Have someone read the lyrics to Jesus Paid It All. Now sing it acapella or listen to it.

Application

- What principle in this passage most impacts how you make decisions in regard to sexuality or disputable matters?

Prayer

- God, give me wisdom to think and act wisely when it comes to the issue of _____.