

Freedom in Christ: A Remedy for Anxiety

Pastor Nick Neves / 1 Corinthians 7:32-40

Paul wants the saints to know the difference between right and wrong, but he also desires to teach them the difference between what is _____ and what is _____. In verses 32-40, Paul will give the Corinthians instruction about how to best use their freedom in Christ.

Wrestling with the idea of anxiety: Does Paul's (and Jesus'!) desire for us to be free from anxiety mean that we are to be carefree to such a degree that we become irresponsible and useless to the Kingdom of Heaven? (See Matt. 6:25-43, 2 Corinthians 11:28, Philippians 4:5-7)

What are some of the legitimate benefits of an unhindered mind?

Verse 35 serves as the pastoral heart of the passage. Here we see that Paul's wisdom aims to promote good _____ and to secure our undivided _____ to the Lord.

To apply this, Paul addresses three areas of life where a believer may need to make us of their freedoms:

1. Should I _____ or remain single?

2. Should I follow through with _____?

3. Should a _____ remarry, or remain single?

Each unique scenario should be approached with the following mindset:

- Our freedom in Christ should be precious to us, and we should not hinder it without careful consideration.
- Taking on a new responsibility must not be allowed to push our love for and devotion to Jesus further down the list of what is important to us.
- When Christ is firmly first, we don't have to spend much energy worrying about choosing the 'perfect path' – enjoy Christ and live in the freedom He has earned for you. (see Matthew 31:44-45)