

Scripture: 1 Cor. 5-8, 10

I. Sinful Appetites: NT Example (Corinthian church)

A. Appetite for Sex

1. Sinful

a) Sex with stepmother (5:1-8)

(1) Applauded

b) Sex with prostitute (6:15-17)

(1) Accepted

2. Scriptural

a) Shun sexual immorality (6:18)

b) Sex within marriage (7:1-9)

(1) If you can't control your libido, get married (7:2, 9)

(2) Spouses don't withhold sex creating temptation to be sexually immoral (7:2-5)

B. Appetite for Suits (6:1-11)

1. Sinful

a) Suing one another

b) Suing one another with unbelievers as judges

2. Scriptural

a) Sacrifice for the glory of the Lord (6:7)

b) Settle the matter in house (6:2-6)

C. Appetite for Stomach

1. Sinful

a) Sacrificial Meat

(1) In the temple (8)

(2) In homes (10:25-27)

2. Scriptural

a) Stay out of the idol's temple (8:10)

b) Sacrifice for others (8:7-13; 10:28-29)

c) Stay ignorant of how the sausage is made (10:25)

D. Applications

1. Study Christian Liberty

a) Prohibits sin (6:9-10; 10:6-12)

b) Permissible isn't always helpful (6:12; 10:23)

c) Personal conscience (10:25-27)

d) Proper understanding (8:8)

2. Some can infect the whole (5:6)

3. Separate yourself from immoral "believers" (5:11)

- 4. Spirit controlled (6:12)**
- 5. Seek the profit of many not one (10:24, 33)**
- 6. Strive to glorify the Lord in everything you do (10:31)**

One of the things one must do to rightly interpret and rightly apply Scripture is to draw parallels between the lives of the original readers and the lives of modern readers. Unfortunately, one of the greatest parallels between the Corinthian Christians and modern Christians is that we live in a society and culture that celebrates sinfulness and promotes self-gratification with no regard for others.

Therefore, it would be unwise for us to dismiss the sins of those believers in Corinth as not being temptations that we ourselves might face. It is with that in mind that we need to heed Paul's words from 1 Cor. 10:12-13. Arrogance can turn Christian liberty into Christian liability. We must always maintain a position of vigilance and diligence in regards to the schemes of Satan. And we should always remember that God's faithful grace can grant us the strength necessary to endure and escape the temptations we encounter.

When we combine that truth with the practical applications we have learned today, we can follow God's desire for spiritual purity rather than falling prey to Satan's scheme of sinful passions for sinful pleasures.