
A Culture Of Confusion: A Study In 1 Corinthians

"Questionable Things"

08-25-24

1 Corinthians 8

Introduction: Paul is now answering specific questions asked by the Corinthians.

1. Here in chapter 8 the issue is things sacrificed to idols.
 - The remains of animals sacrificed publicly in the pagan temples were sold in the local markets.
 - Was it acceptable for a Christian to consume this meat?
2. It was a serious problem in the early church.
3. Here Paul gives the most exhaustive answer we find in scripture.
4. Things have changed, so we really don't struggle with this issue today.
5. There are other issues we do struggle with, and Paul's insight can help us navigate them.
6. So, our goal today is to allow Paul to teach us to deal with questionable things.

I. The Basis For Decision Making

A. Knowledge Is Inadequate

B. Love Is The Priority

II. Living Love

A. Understanding The Issue

- Theology

- Reality

B. Practical Consideration

- Liberty

- Avoiding Offense

- Personal Restraint

Conclusion: We live in a world that endorses self-indulgence.

1. We live in a world that encourages the assertion of our rights.
2. It's as if you are the only one who matters.
3. Christianity operates on a very different perspective.
4. We are called to love God and our neighbor.
5. When we apply those values to our lives, our lives will be very different.
6. Instead of causing offense, God uses us to edify others.