

Pastor Ron Case
5/1/16

“Differentiate”

*“I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who lacked judgment.”
(Proverbs 7:7)*

*“But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by
constant practice to distinguish good from evil.” (Hebrews 5:14)*

Liberty and Life

1 Corinthians 10:23-31 – (23) “‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things are helpful. ‘All things are lawful,’ but not all things build up. (24) Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. (25) Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience. (26) For ‘the earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof.’ (27) If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. (28) But if someone says to you, ‘This has been offered in sacrifice,’ then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience— (29) I do not mean your conscience, but his. **For why should my liberty be determined by someone else’s conscience?** (30) **If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?** (31) So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

Romans 15:1-3 – (1) “We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. (2) Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. (3) For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, ‘The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me.’”

Physical and Spiritual Health

1 Timothy 4:7-8 – (7) “Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; (8) for while bodily training is of some value, **godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.**”

Control and Concession

Proverbs 19:21 – “Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.”

Matthew 6:25-27 – (25) “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? (26) Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? (27) And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?”

Psalm 146:3-4 – (3) “Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. (4) When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.”

Job 1:20-21 – (20) “Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. (21) And he said, ‘Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.’”

Luke 23:46 – “Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!’ And having said this he breathed his last.”

Questions to Ponder:

- (1) What are some areas the Lord is exposing where I lean more towards the natural?
- (2) Am I willing to practice differentiation? (Heb. 5:14)
- (3) Do I tend to be controlling and led by my expectations?

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)