

GRACE GONE WILD!

GETTING A GRIP ON GOD'S AMAZING GIFT

"GOOD GRACE DECISION-MAKING"
SELECTED SCRIPTURES

DECEMBER 6, 2020



Introduction: Today we will discover how a proper understanding of grace should affect how we make difficult decisions in life.

I. The Two Extremes Of Decision-Making Regarding “Gray Areas”

A. Legalism: “There Are No Gray Areas”

B. Libertarianism: “Every Issue Is A Gray Area”

II. A Trip To The Meat Market (1 Corinthians 8)

III. Paul’s Principles For Deciding About The “Gray Areas”

A. Good Grace Elevates Love Above Knowledge
(1 Corinthians 8:1-4)

1 Corinthians 8:4 “Therefore concerning the eating of things sacrificed to idols, we know that there is no such thing as an idol in the world, and that there is no God but one.”

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1 Corinthians 8:1-3 ¹ “Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. ² If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know; ³ but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him.”

1 John 4:20 “If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.”

B. Good Grace Elevates The Welfare Of Others Over My Freedom
(1 Corinthians 8:7)

Acts 16:31 “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

1 Corinthians 8:7 “However not all men have this knowledge; but some, being accustomed to the idol until now, eat food as if it were sacrificed to an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.”

C. Good Grace Elevates God's Interests Above My Desires
(1 Corinthians 8:12-13)

1 Corinthians 8:12 “And so, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:27-28 ²⁷ “Now you are Christ’s body, and individually members of it.
²⁸ And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.”

1 Corinthians 8:13 “Therefore, if food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause my brother to stumble.”

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IV. Three Filters For Good Grace Decision-Making (1 Corinthians 10:23-24, 31)

1 Corinthians 10:23-24, 31 ²³ "All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. ²⁴ Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbor.

³¹ Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."

A. Filter #1: Is it Lawful?

2 Timothy 2:22 "Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart."

B. Filter #2: Is it Profitable?

C. Filter #3: Is it Helpful?

Conclusion