**Four Biblical Principles on Christian Liberty**

1. **The Principle of Liberty:** Anything that is not expressly prohibited, is permitted.

*“"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything.” (1Co 6:12 ESV)*

*“"All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up.” (1Co 10:23 ESV)*

*“... Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats.” (Ro 14:20b ESV)*

1. **The Principle of Conscience**: We should never do things that we “feel” are wrong. We should not sin against our conscience. But we should not impose those “feelings” on others.

*“22 The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. 23 But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.” (Ro 14:22-23 ESV)*

1. **The Principle of Expediency**: Our liberty should not cause the unsaved person to stumble.

*“19 ¶ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20 To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21 To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22 To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.” (1Co 9:19-23 ESV)*

*“31 So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 32 Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, 33 just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.” (1Co 10:31-33 ESV)*

1. **The Principle of Love:** Our liberty should not cause a weaker brother or sister to stumble.

*“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. 32 Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, 33 just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.” (1Co 10:23-33 ESV)*

*“19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. 20 Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. 21 It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.” (Ro 14:19-21 ESV)*