

Listening To The Silence

"Do not add to His words Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar. "

Proverbs 30:6

What Does The Silence Mean?

- “Where does the Bible say I can’t do that?”
 - Does God have to explicitly prohibit something?
 - Is the Bible a rule book that we look up to find out if something is prohibited and if not then go ahead?
 - Does God prohibit things by implication? Such as when the scripture says to Love God, does that imply that we must not – not love God?
- “Where does the Bible tell me to do that?”
 - Should we do only those things explicitly commanded by God?

Training To Be Like Christ

■ The New Covenant in Christ attempts to train us to live like Jesus. That is why a law written for a nation half a world away and 3500 yrs ago can still train us.

- Galatians 2:20 *"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; ..."*
- Hebrews 5:12 *"But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil."*
- 2Timothy 3:17 *"so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."*
- Luke 6:40 *"A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher."*
- 1 Peter 2:21 *"For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,"*
- Ephesians 2:10 *"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."*

Do All In His Name

- Colossians 3:17 *"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."*
- Matthew 7:21-23 ~ Just because someone says its in His name doesn't make it in His name.
- 1 Cor 2:12-16 ~ Knowing the mind of Christ.
- 1 Cor 4:6 ~ *"Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us you may learn not to exceed what is written, ... "*

Exceeding What is Written

- Moses does not obey ~ Numbers 20:7-12
 - Ex 17:6 ~ Moses did the same thing before.
- Nadab & Abihu ~ Lev 10:1-2
- Judah not priests ~ Num 8:5-15, Heb 7:14, 8:4
- Teaching to keep the law ~ Acts 15:5, 24

What is Commanded & What is Not

- Noah & Ark ~ Gen 6:14 "“*Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.*”
 - When God specified the type of wood, He eliminated by implication all other kinds.
 - When He specified the dimensions he eliminated other sizes.
 - What was not specified (that we know of) to Noah was how to gather (carts, animals, saws, axes), when to gather, etc.
 - It was left up to Noah to discern when and how to do what God told him.

Where Does Liberty Fit?

■ Christians Have Liberty

■ From Bondage & Oppression

- Luke 4:18 *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; "*
- Gal 5:1 *" Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage."*

■ Liberty Is Taught By The Word of God

- James 1:25 *"But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."*
- Gal 5:13 *"For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another."*
- 1 Peter 2:15-16 *"For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men— as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God."*

What Are The Silence Options?

- God's Specifics Exclude Everything Else
 - Judah not priests - Levi is specified ~ Heb 7:14; 8:4
 - Not music - singing specified ~ Eph 5:19; Col 3:16
- There Is Liberty – general approval with no exclusion or command against the specific
 - Free to eat all food
 - Romans 14:2-3; 1Timothy 4:3-5
 - Free to observe special days or Not
 - Romans 14:5-6
 - Free to Marry (with specific exceptions stated)
 - 1Timothy 4:3; 1 Cor 7:8-9, 27-28; 7:11 (exception given)

Decision Making

