

2. Read 1 Corinthians 4:11 and following..see what the persons of God were willing to endure for the testimony

III. Conclusion: The practical authority of Scripture demands a clearing of our grievances and a healthful return to our worship and duties. But it also demands that it be done on the basis of you knowledge of Christ and your appreciation of the grace of God.

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MESSAGE # 7: AUTHORITY FOR OUR PROGRAMS

Biblical Passages: 1 Peter 2

I. Introducing the Subject:

The New Testament company is a called out body, a holy temple to the Lord with both a spiritual and practical thrust with regard as to what to be and what to do. It's task is outlined in 1 Peter 2 with the challenge to grow (v 2), show (v. 9) and to go (v.15) It is given the broadest possible liberty in moving in the world with these things for the sharing of the Good News. But its programs can become overwhelming and sometimes even bizarre. The Bible does not give us exact specifications but it gives us guidelines and with them you will have to remember that, as in Romans 14, every person is accountable to the Master and we must be very careful in granting judgment in program matters. So in the bounds of general spiritual acceptability I offer the following brief notes:

II. Discussion:

A. The principles that should govern (characterize) any program:

1. It should honor the building (the holy temple of Eph. 2)
2. It should honor the character of the Lord
3. It should be edifying
4. It should be in doctrinal/positional agreement
5. It should be achieving....regardless of whether it is sent to the world or kept to the fellowship it should have a measurable goal that is attainable and stated.

B. The program guidelines are briefly seen in this light: