



## Lesson Four

# Are All Things Lawful?

Many people are being led away by FALSE TEACHERS of PERVERTED GRACE who make the statement “All things are LAWFUL for me, but not all things are expedient, or profitable.”

The statement that Paul makes in I Corinthians 6:12 is absolutely true. Let’s look at it.

*All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.* **1 Corinthians 6:12**

One false teacher on a nation-wide radio program stated that if he wanted to get DRUNK and have sex with a woman WHO WAS not his wife, it was LAWFUL in the sight of God. He said it would not HINDER him from going to Heaven, it just wasn’t profitable.

This radio teacher was taking the preceding verse out of context and TWISTING it to make it mean something it DID NOT really mean. We will come back to this verse.

A man may say ANYTHING, but that DOES NOT make it true. A man may call a HORSE an ELEPHANT, but it is still a HORSE.

We need to also remember that what is LAWFUL is not always RIGHT. The law in the U.S.A. ALLOWS people to KILL BABIES by ABORTION, but it is not right, according to God’s Word, the Bible.

The law allows men and women to have sex OUTSIDE of MARRIAGE, and even men and men and women and women to have consensual sex together, but it is sin according to God’s Word, the Bible.

The Prophet Ezekiel emphasizes very strongly in his writing that men must not only do that which is LAWFUL, BUT ALSO that which is right. Let’s look at this.

*[5] But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right,*

*[19] Yet say ye, Why? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? When the son hath done that which is lawful and right, and hath kept all my statutes, and hath done them, he shall surely live.*

*[21] But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.*

*[27] Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.*

**Ezekiel 18:5, 19, 21, 27**

[14] Again, when I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; if he turn from his sin, and do that which is **lawful and right**;

[16] None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is **lawful and right**; he shall surely live.

[19] But if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is **lawful and right**, he shall live thereby. **Ezekiel 33:14, 16, 19**

These verses are very interesting. For those who would say these are Old Testament Scriptures, and are not **IMPORTANT** now, I would like to call your attention to the following:

*For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.* **Malachi 3:6**

*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.* **2 Timothy 2:15**

[16] All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

[17] That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.* **Hebrews 13:8**

Remember, I said we want to come back to this thought that all things are lawful.

[1] At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus,

[2] And said unto his servants, This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him.

[3] For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife.

[4] For John said unto him, It is **NOT LAWFUL** for thee to have her. **Matthew 14:1-4**

[3] The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, **Is it lawful** for a man to put away his wife for every cause?

[9] And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery. **Matthew 19:3, 9**

The Apostle Paul, who said “all things are lawful” also said the following:

[1] It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

[2] I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

[3] And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)

[4] How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is **NOT LAWFUL** for a man to utter. **2 Corinthians 12:1-4**

Does the Bible contradict itself? Is Paul contradicting himself? No! When we realize what Paul was referring to in I Corinthians, chapter six, we can easily see what he meant.

*All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful*

for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

**1 Corinthians 6:12**

So, what was Paul referring to? Let's look at it.

**MEATS** for the **BELLY**, and the **BELLY** for **MEATS**: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is **NOT FOR** fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

**1 Corinthians 6:13**

Paul is **obviously** talking about it being lawful to **EAT MEAT**.

[1] Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations.

[2] For one believeth that **HE MAY EAT** all things: another, who is weak, **EATETH HERBS**.

[3] Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him.

[4] Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

[5] One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

[6] He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.

**Romans 14:1-6**

[14] Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

[15] And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

[16] Let no man therefore **JUDGE YOU IN MEAT**, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:

[17] Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

**Colossians 2:14-17**

[1] Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

[2] Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

[3] Forbidding to marry, and commanding to **ABSTAIN FROM MEATS**, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

[4] For every **CREATURE** of God is **GOOD**, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

[5] For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

**1 Timothy 4:1-5**

Can any sincere, knowledgeable, thinking, reasonable believer in truth really **BE-LIEVE** that it is **LAWFUL** to **COMMIT MURDER, RAPE, TORTURE, ROBBERY**, etc.? Are we or have we become so **foolish** in our efforts to **defend a FALSE** and **un-reasonable**, unbiblical **DOCTRINE**, that we resort to **TOTALLY FALSE** claims?

The truth is that God's grace does not give a license to sin, and still go to Heaven. Rather, God's grace requires and enables us to live a more holy and righteous life here on earth.

The truth is that under grace, God **DEMANDS** we live better. Let's look at the facts.

[21] Ye have heard that it was said by them of **OLD TIME**, Thou shalt not kill; and

*whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:*

[22] **BUT I SAY UNTO YOU**, *That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.*

**Matthew 5:21-22**

[27] *Ye have heard that it was said by them of **OLD TIME**, Thou shalt not commit adultery:*

[28] **BUT I SAY UNTO YOU**, *That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*

**Matthew 5:27-28**

Do the preceding verses sound like God has lowered His standards under grace? No! Under grace we are responsible to live a **CLEANER, MORE SPIRITUAL LIFE**.

[38] *Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:*

[39] **BUT I SAY UNTO YOU**, *That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.*

[40] *And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also.*

[41] *And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.*

[42] *Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.*

[43] *Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.*

[44] *But I say unto you, **LOVE YOUR ENEMIES**, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;*

[45] *That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.*

[46] *For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?*

[47] *And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?*

[48] *Be ye therefore **PERFECT**, even as your Father which is in heaven is **PERFECT**.*

**Matthew 5:38-48**

Sadly, there are those who feel that mankind was still under Old Testament law until Christ was crucified, buried, rose from the dead and went back to Heaven. Let us then check out the writings of the apostles.

[1] *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your **reasonable service**.*

[2] *And be not **CONFORMED** to this world: but be ye **TRANSFORMED** by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

**Romans 12:1-2**

[8] *Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.*

[9] *For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy*

neighbour as thyself.

[10] *Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.*

**Romans 13:8-10**

*Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

**2 Corinthians 7:1**

[24] *And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.*

[25] *If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

[26] *Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.*

**Galatians 5:24-26**

Look at the instructions given in Ephesians, chapters four and five. Read 2 Timothy, chapter six. Can we overlook the fourth chapter of James? Let's not forget 2 Peter 3:14-18.

Have we **EXHAUSTED** the supply of scriptures which tell us that **WE ARE TO** live right? No, we have barely scratched the surface.

[15] *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

[16] *For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

[17] *And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

**1 John 2:15-17**

Please understand that in these lessons, we are not using all of the Bible teaching that is available. I challenge you to read your Bible. Read it through. Read it daily. Read it prayerfully.

[5] *And now I beseech thee, lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.*

[6] *And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.*

**2 John 1:5-6**

Remember, **SIN IS NOT LAWFUL**, and unconfessed sin can keep you out of Heaven.

For those who think **doctrine** is of little importance, I leave you with this.

[8] *Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.*

[9] *Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.*

[10] *If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:*

[11] *For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.* **2 John 1:8-11**