

Thinking Biblically and living deliberately: The Apostle Paul and Halloween

1. Topical vs systematic exposition
 - a. Stepping away from Acts for a moment, but there are connections between this topic and where we are in Acts
2. **1 Corinthians 9:19-23**
 - a. "I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some."
3. Would Paul have taken part in Halloween festivities and traditions?
 - a. Should Christians today? Should we?
4. Why does this matter?
 - a. Accountability to God
 - i. **Romans 14:10-12**
 - ii. **2 Corinthians 5:9-10**
 - iii. **1 Peter 1:13-19**
 - iv. **Revelation 20:11-15**
 - b. We can please or displease God
 - i. **Psalm 19:14**
 - ii. **Ephesians 5:6-11**
 - iii. **Colossians 1:9-10; 3:20**
 - iv. **1 Thessalonians 2:1-4**
5. History of Halloween (Wikipedia article)
 - a. Christian origins?
 - i. Christian does not always mean biblical!
 - b. Holidays and traditions change with time, much like language does
6. At what point does becoming all things to all people become so like the culture(s) we live in that there is no difference between Christians and non-Christians?
 - a. Read the blog post "Paul in Athens; you, me and Halloween"?
7. Paul and other first-century Christians faced opposition and persecution. Why? Why don't we? Have we reached a point where we are so much like our culture that we are simply accepted as part of that culture?
8. What about being missional?
 - a. What about going to bars, for example, and witnessing to unbelievers there?
9. Do our non-Christian neighbors realize that we are different? Are we different?

Resources

1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halloween>
2. <https://alightinthedarkness.wordpress.com/2009/11/01/paul-in-athens-you-me-and-halloween/>