Reflection Questions for November 8, 2009
The Dysfunction of Libertinism: 1 Corinthians 8–11:1

1. In 1 Cor 8:1a, Paul quotes from the Corinthian letter about their possession of certain knowledge. To what do you think this refers?

2. In 8:1b–3, Paul briefly discusses the importance of knowledge for Christians. What standing does it seem to have for Paul among the Christian virtues?

3. In 8:7–13, Paul shows concern for the Corinthians whose consciences were wounded and advises accommodation. What knowledge did the "weak" lack, and why does Paul think others should accommodate them?

(Over)

4. In chapter 9, Paul gives examples of his own accommodation. What are these examples, and how far did it seem Paul was willing to bend? How far should Christians today go in accommodating fellow Christians?

5. In 10:1–22, Paul warns about idolatry. How does this warning tie-in with his earlier advice about accommodation?

6. Paul concludes by issuing several commands of a practical nature in 10:23–11:1. What are these commands and how might they help the Corinthians maintain both truth and unity? Are there practical ways that Christians today can likewise maintain both?