

"STAY AS YOU ARE"

I CORINTHIANS 7:17-24

I. THERE IS A PREVAILING GUIDING PRINCIPLE WITH RESPECT TO THIS SECTION OF THE CHAPTER: THE PERMANENCE OF RELATIONSHIPS (7:17)

- A. The Corinthians Tried To Sever Whatever Relationship They Were In Thinking It Would Improve Their Current Status
- B. Christians Should "*Walk*" For The Lord In The Midst Of Whatever Position Or Vocation In Which God Saved Them
- C. The Pervasive Sub Theme Of "Calling" Provides The Glue That Holds The Principle Of *Staying Put* Together

- 1. God Called You To Salvation

- 2. There's A Sense In Which God Also Called You To Serve Him In The Situation You Were In When He Called You

II. THIS PREVAILING GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS ILLUSTRATED BY JEWISH RITES, PARTICULARLY CIRCUMCISION (7:18-19)

III. THIS PREVAILING GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS ILLUSTRATED BY SOCIAL STATUS, PARTICULARLY SLAVERY (7:20-24)