

MARTIN LUTHER



**ON THE FREEDOM
OF A CHRISTIAN**
WITH RELATED TEXTS

Edited and Translated, with an Introduction, by
TRYNTJE HELFFERICH

"the soul can do without everything, except the word of God, without which none at all of its wants are provided for. But, having the word, it is rich and want for nothing; since that is the word of life, of truth, of light, of peace, of justification, of salvation, of joy, of liberty, of wisdom, of virtue, of grace, of glory, and of every good thing".

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"A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.

A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."



“If I have the gift of prophecy
and can fathom all mysteries
and all knowledge,
and if I have a faith that can move mountains,
but do not have love,
I am nothing.”

1 Corinthians 13:2



But knowledge puffs up
while love builds up.

Now about food sacrificed to idols



What we know



'An idol is nothing at all in the world'

'there is no God but one'

1 Cor 8:4

But not everyone
possesses this knowledge

1 Cor 8:7



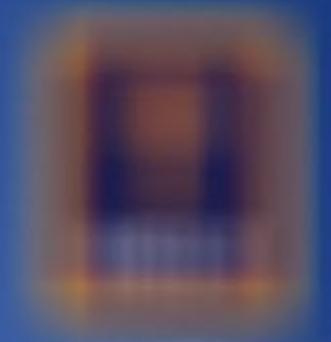
Conscience

Latin:

**Con = with
science = knowledge
(of God/ right)**



Three moral categories



Right

Wrong

Inconsequential



If you **think** a behavior is wrong
according to your conscience
then to practice it is **sinful**
even if objectively it is
inconsequential



Be careful
how you exercise your rights
not to be a stumbling block
to the weak

1 Cor 8:9



Don't destroy someone's
faith by your knowledge

1 Cor 8:11

Willingly giving up a
position of strength for one
of weakness
is the pattern of the
crucified Messiah

