

they can become harmful. They are not ends in themselves. They are merely means to an end and should be considered in that light. If they become something that people worship they should be ruthlessly torn out and destroyed but they have not become such and we can keep them from becoming such without getting ~~===~~ without any thought of getting rid of the basic principle which is worked out in detail in the OT and which we are left to work out details of ourselves in the ways that fit best in our culture and in our situation to accomplish the purposes to which the Lord has called us.

Now in applying these principles of the standing fast in the liberty with which Christ has made us free, it does not mean license. It means seeking ~~means~~ means to carry out His will; seeking means to put Him first in all things; seeking ways of getting His truth into people's hearts and minds. In carrying it out we have certain definite problems. One of these is that we avoid ~~f~~ giving unnecessary offense. If something has become definitely bad, and has become definitely an end in itself, it is good to drop it altogether or perhaps to drop it for a time and then it can be brought back again after the false attitudes toward it have disappeared. Tear down every idol throne, but there is no reason to destroy works of art unless they have become idols. If we can cease (stop) them from becoming idols we can still admire them as works of art. We can even use them as means to point to Christ if we are careful how we use them.