

V. Individual sole liberty

- This particular distinctive does not justify lawlessness, worldliness or living in a manner unbecoming of a Christian.
- God can and does direct on the individual level: **I John 2.27** – it is the Holy Spirit of God that performs the anointing: **I John 2.20**
 - The Holy Spirit does not negate the need for human teachers: **Ephesians 4.11-14**
- God deals with people as individuals, in the Church Age especially:
 - He is no respecter of p_____ : **Acts 10.34**
 - _____
 - _____
 - You are, by all accounts, individually responsible before God for your personal salvation: **John 1.11-13**
 - “Not of blood”, not by inheritance;
 - “Nor of the will of the flesh”, not by individual effort;
 - “nor of the will of man”, not by institutional decree;
 - “but as many as receive Him...”
 - Each believer has individual sole liberty to choose his own church, determine his

own fate, decide on the Bible of deny the living Christ.

With liberty comes responsibility...with responsibility comes accountability:

- God will judge:
 - Great White Throne (Lost Dead, Tribulation and Millennium living) – **Revelation 20.13**
 - Bema (Judgment Seat of Christ) – **II Corinthians 5.10; Romans 14.12; I Corinthians 3.11-15**
- Individual sole liberty has led Baptist to:
 - Reject the false teaching of infant baptism – Individuals must decide for themselves.
 - Reject infant church membership – Members must be saved and scripturally baptised.
 - Accept religious liberty – Worship is not a state dictatorship, no nation has the right to establish a ‘state church’ nor do they have the authority to enforce a la compelling anyone to support a ecclesiastical institution.

■ _____

