

The Strong and The Weak

Romans 14:1 – 15:13

Receive One Another with Understanding

One man has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only. Let not him who eats regard with contempt him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats, for God has accepted him. Romans 14:1-3

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- In Romans 14: 1-12 Paul gives us four reasons from this passage why all believers (both weak and strong) should receive all other believers.
 - The first reason all believers should receive all other believers is that **God receives them.**

The Lord Sustains Each Believer

- Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his master he stands or falls; and stand he will, for the Lord is able to make him stand. Romans 14:4
- The second reason every Christian should accept every other Christian is that **the Lord sustains them all.**

The Lord is Sovereign to Each Believer

- One man regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind. He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and the living. Romans 14:5-9

The Lord Alone Will Judge Each Believer

- But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, :As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me. And every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God. Romans 14:10-12

Building Unity and Love in the Body

- Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. Romans 14: 13-15

- Don't Cause Your Brother To Stumble
- Don't Grieve Your Brother
- Don't Devastate Your Brother

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- So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. So let us pursue what makes for peace and the building up of one another. Romans 14:16-19
 - Don't Forfeit Your Witness

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- Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.
 - Romans 14: 20-23

Christ Our Example

- We who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. For even Christ did not please Himself, but as it is written, “The reproach of those who reproached you fell on Me.” For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus. Romans 15:1-6