

“A Place of Warmth & Welcome”

Romans 15:5-7



1. The Empowerment Of Accepting Others (5)

- A. The origin of this power - "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you..."
- B. The intentionality of this power - "...to live in such harmony with one another..."
- C. The context of this power - "...in accord with Christ Jesus..."

2. The Necessity Of Accepting Others (6)

- A. It is essential for the unity of the flock - "That together you may with one voice..."
- B. It is essential for the glory of the Father - "That together you may...glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

3. The Requirement Of Accepting Others (7a)

- A. What Paul says (7a) - "Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."
Also Ephesians 4:2- 3 - "Forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."
- B. What James says (James 2:1)- "My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory."
- C. What Peter says (1 Peter 5:5) - "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."
- D. What John says (1 John 3:14) - "We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death."

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- E. What Jesus says (John 13:34-35) - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

4. The Attitude In Accepting Others (7b)

- A. Who do I accept among others (Romans 14:17-19) - "For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. 19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."
- B. When I should accept others (Matthew 5:23-24) - "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."
ASTOUNDING: Jesus commands us to place priority on relational reconciliation with each other on a higher level than our private worship of God.
- C. Why I accept others - "...as Christ also received us to the glory of God."