

# Paul's Epistle to the ROMANS

6/20/2021 PM

## “Weak and Strong Must Get Along” (part 2) Romans 14:13-23



### Introduction:

- A Warning about stumbling blocks (vs. 13b)
- B Nothing is “unclean” in itself (vs. 14b)
- C Warning about destroying one for whom Christ died (vs. 15b)
- C<sup>1</sup> Warning about tearing down the work of God (vs. 20a)
- B<sup>1</sup> All things are “clean” in themselves (vs. 20b)
- A<sup>1</sup> Warning about causing another believer to stumble (vs. 21)

### I. THE PRINCIPLE OF LIBERTY IN CHRIST (14:13-15)

#### A. A Strong Determination (vs. 13)

“Therefore let us not judge one another anymore...”

“but rather determine this - not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.”

#### B. A Purposed Conviction (vs. 14)

“I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself...”

I Timothy 4:4  
Titus 1:15

“but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.”

#### C. A Loving Proposition (vs. 15)

“For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love.”

“Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.”

### II. THE PRIORITIES OF LIBERTY IN CHRIST (14:16-18)

#### A. A Matter of Sacrifice (vs. 16)

“Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil...”

B. A Matter of Satisfaction (vs. 17)

“for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

Galatians 5:22-23

C. A Matter of Service (vs. 18)

“For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.”

**III. THE PRACTICE OF LIBERTY IN CHRIST (14:19-23)**

A. Be Considerate (vs. 19-21)

“So then we pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.”

I Corinthians 10:23

I Thessalonians 5:11

“Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food.”

“All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

“It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or to do anything by which your brother stumbles.”

I Corinthians 8:13

Mark 9:42

B. Be Convinced (vs. 22)

“The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God.”

“Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.”

C. Be Consistent (vs. 23)

“But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith;”

Acts 10 & Galatians 2:11-13

“and whatever is not from faith is sin.”

**Conclusion:**

- 1) Learn to distinguish between matters of command and matters of freedom in Scripture.
- 2) On debatable issues, cultivate your own convictions.
- 3) Allow your brother the freedom to determine his own convictions, even when they differ from yours.
- 4) Let your liberty be limited, when necessary, by love.
- 5) Follow Christ as the model and motivator of servanthood.