

The Book of Romans

VI. Paul *Directs* the **Believers** concerning their **Spiritual Life** and **Service** before **God** and **One Another** (12:1-15:13)

- A. He *Exhorts* them to *fully* **Commit** to **Serving God**, and **Living** according to **His will** (12:1-2)
- B. He *Explains* to them regarding the **Exercise** of the **Gifts** of **Grace** that have been **given them** (12:3-8)
- C. He *Expresses* what should **Characterize** their **Life** and **Service** as **Believers** (12:9-13:14)
 - 1. *Describing* what should **Characterize** their **Ministry** as a **Body of Believers** (12:9-13)
 - 2. *Declaring* what their **Response** should be to **Adversity** (12:14-21)
 - 3. *Determining* what their **Relationship** should be to **Governing Authorities** (13:1-7)
 - 4. *Disclosing* their **Obligation** to **Love One Another** (13:8-10)
 - 5. *Depicting* their **Need** to **Live** in the *Light* of “**Day**” (13:11-14)

D. He *Encourages* them to **Accept One Another**, though there may be ***Disputable* Religious Convictions** (14:1-12)

- 1. *Accepting* those who have **different Dietary Convictions** (14:1-4)

14 Now **accept** the **one** who is ***weak*** in faith, *but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions.*

² **One person** has faith that he may **eat all things**, but he who is ***weak*** eats **vegetables only**.

³ The **one** who ***eats*** is **not** to regard with ***contempt*** the **one** who does ***not eat***, and the **one** who does ***not eat*** is **not** to ***judge*** the one who ***eats***, for **God** has **accepted him**.

⁴ Who are **you** to **judge** the **servant of another**?
To his **own master** he **stands** or **falls**; and he will stand,
for the **Lord** is **able** to make him stand.

2. **Acknowledging those** who have **differences** regarding **Days of Observance** (14:5-9)

⁵ **One person** regards **one day above another**,
another regards **every day alike**.
Each person must be **fully convinced** in his **own mind**.

⁶ **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**.

⁷ For **not one** of us **lives** for **himself**, and **not one dies** for **himself**;
⁸ 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**.

⁹ For to **this end** **Messiah** died and lived again,
that **He** might be **Lord** both of the **dead** and of the **living**.

3. **Admonishing those** who would show **Contempt**, and **Judge** their **Brethren** (14:10-12)

¹⁰ But **you**, why do you **judge your brother**?
Or **you** again, why do **you** regard **your brother** with **contempt**?

For **we** will **all stand** before the **judgment seat** of **God**.

¹¹ For it is written,

“AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL **BOW TO ME**,
AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL **GIVE PRAISE TO GOD**.”

¹² So then **each one** of **us** will give an **account** of himself to **God**.

Personal Application

1. As **believers**, we are to **accept** those who are “**weak in faith**,” but **not** for the purpose of **quarreling** with them about **disputable** matters of **belief**. In our text tonight, being “**weak in faith**” means having **scruples** or **personal convictions** about things, that **others**, who because of their “**stronger**” **faith**, feel at **liberty** to **believe** and **practice** (14:1-3).

2. *As believers*, we are to **accept one another**, and are **not** to **pass judgment** on another because of their **personal dietary convictions** (14:1-3). We need to realize that *as believers*, the one who “**eats**,” as well as the one who “**eats not**,” are *both* “**accepted**” by **God** (14:3).

3. *As believers*, **who** are we “to **judge** the *servant of another*?” We read tonight:

“To his **own master** he **stands or falls**; and he will **stand**, for the **Lord** is **able** to make him **stand**.” (14:4)

4. *As believers* we are to **accept** those who have **different personal convictions** regarding the **observance of days**. For:

“**One person** regards **one day above** another, another regards **every day alike**. Each **person** must be **fully convinced** in his **own mind**.” (14:5)

Rabbi Paul points out that **those who observe the day**, observe it for the **Lord** (14:6a). He also declares that *both* those who **eat**, and those who **eat not** do so “**for the Lord**,” and **give thanks to God** (14:6b-c).

For **no believer** lives out of regard for **himself alone** (14:7). **He** has the **Lord’s honor** and **will** always in **view**.

“;..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**.” (14:8)

5. *As believers*, we are **warned** against **judging our brother**, and regarding him (or her) with **contempt**. For **we will all stand** before the **judgment seat of God** (14:10), and “**each one of us** will give an **account** of himself to **God** (14:12).”

Closing Quote

Are **Believers Required** to **Keep** the **Sabbath Day**?

⁴ **Who** are **you** to **judge** the **servant of another**? To his **own master** he **stands or falls**; and he will **stand**, for the **Lord** is **able** to make him **stand**.

⁵ **One person** regards **one day above** another, another regards **every day alike**. Each **person** must be **fully convinced** in his **own mind**.

⁶ **He who observes the day, observes it for *the Lord*,**
(Romans 14:4a-6a)

“ Verse four gives a **clear prohibition** against fellow believers **judging one another** concerning the **practice in various areas**. One of these areas where one is **forbidden to judge a believer** concerns the **area of *days***.

While the term **days** is not limited to the Sabbath day, it would certainly *include* the Sabbath day. In verse five, one man is free to esteem **one day above another**...

Another believer may view **every day equally alike** and *both* are **valid options** according to this passage. In verse 6a, both options are to be taken as in honoring the Lord.

The **application** for this passage includes *three things*:

first, **believers** who choose not to **keep the Sabbath** should not judge those who do so as **legalists**;

second, those who do **choose to keep the Sabbath** are not to make it **mandatory** upon **all believers**;

and, *third*, this passage is *against mandatory Sabbath keeping* for either **Jews or Gentiles**.”

(THE SABBATH, Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, pg 46)