

The Book of Romans

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

D. He *Encourages* them to **Accept One Another**,
in spite of *Disputable Religious Convictions*
(14:1-15:13)

1. *Accepting* those who have **different Dietary Convictions** (14:1-4)
2. *Acknowledging* those who have **differences** regarding **Days of Observance** (14:5-9)
3. *Admonishing* those who would show **Contempt**, and **Judge** their **Brethren** (14:10-12)
4. *Asserting* the **Priority of Love** in the **Practice of Religious Convictions** (14:13-23)
5. *Appealing* ultimately, for **Unity** and **Acceptance** among **them** (15:1-13)

¹⁵ Now we who are **strong** ought to **bear** the weaknesses of those **without strength** and **not just please ourselves**.

² Each of us is to **please his neighbor** for **his good**, to **his edification**.

³ For even **Messiah** did **not please Himself**; but as it is **written**,

“THE **REPROACHES** OF THOSE WHO **REPROACHED** YOU FELL ON **ME**.”

⁴ 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**.

⁵ Now may the **God** who gives **perseverance** and **encouragement** grant you to be of the **same mind** with **one another** according to **Messiah Jesus**,

⁶ so that with **one accord** you may with **one voice glorify** the **God and Father** of our **Lord Jesus the Messiah**.

⁷ Therefore, **accept one another**, just as **Messiah** also **accepted us** to the **glory of God**.

⁸ For I say that **Messiah** has become a **servant** to the **circumcision** on behalf of the **truth of God** to **confirm** the **promises given** to the **fathers**,

⁹ and for the **Gentiles** to **glorify God** for **His mercy**, as it is **written**,

“THEREFORE I WILL **GIVE PRAISE TO YOU** AMONG THE **GENTILES**, AND I WILL **SING TO YOUR NAME**.”

¹⁰ Again he says,

“**REJOICE, O GENTILES**, WITH **HIS PEOPLE**.”

¹¹ And again,

“**PRAISE THE LORD** ALL YOU **GENTILES**, AND LET **ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM**.”

¹² Again **Isaiah** says,

“THERE SHALL COME THE **ROOT OF JESSE**, AND **HE WHO ARISES** TO **RULE** OVER THE **GENTILES**, **IN HIM** SHALL THE **GENTILES HOPE**.”

¹³ Now may the **God of hope** fill you with all **joy** and **peace** in **believing**, so that you will **abound in hope** by the **power** of the **Holy Spirit**.

Personal Application

Maintaining Unity and Harmony among **Us**

- A. By **Exhorting** those who are **strong in faith** to **bear with** the **weaknesses** of those who have **no strength**—particularly those who have **personal scruples** and **convictions** about **diet** and **observances** of **days** (15:1)
- B. By **Entreating** one another to **prioritize pleasing** his neighbor “for **his good**, to **his edification**” (15:2)
- C. By **Encouraging** one another to follow **Messiah’s example** of **selfless ministry** (15:3)

1. *Who* sought to *not please Himself* (15:3a)
 2. *Who* willingly, as **God's Servant**, *bore* the reproach of **others** (15:3b)
- D. By *Embracing* the examples from **Scripture** that were **written** for **our instruction** (15:4)
1. That *we* might persevere (15:4a)
 2. That *we* might **be encouraged** (15:4b)
 3. That *we* might have hope (15:4c)
- E. By *Endeavoring*, through the **God** who grants *perseverance* and *encouragement*, to be of the "same mind with **one another**," so that with unity, and with "**one voice**" we might **glorify God the Father**, and the **Lord Jesus the Messiah** (15:5-6)
- F. By *Emphasizing* the **priority** of "accepting one another," even though we may have **different personal convictions** in things that are disputable (15:7)—just as **Messiah** has "**accepted us** to the **glory of God**," we are to accept one another (15:7)

Closing Encouragement Looking to the *Examples* from Scripture

"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*. (15:4)

James →As an example, brethren, of *suffering* and *patience*, take the **prophets** who spoke in the **name of the Lord**. We count those **blessed** who *endured*.

You have heard of the **endurance of Job** and have seen the **outcome** of the **Lord's dealings**, that the **Lord** is full of *compassion* and *is merciful*...

Is anyone among you **suffering**? *Then* he must pray.
Is anyone **cheerful**? He is to **sing praises**.

Is anyone among you sick?
Then he must call for the **elders** of the **church**

and they are to **pray over him**,
anointing him with **oil** in the **name of the Lord**;

and the **prayer** offered in **faith** will **restore** the one who is **sick**,
and **the Lord** will **raise him up**, and if he has committed **sins**,
they will be **forgiven him**.

Therefore, **confess your sins** to **one another**,
and **pray for one another** so that you may be **healed**.

The **effective prayer** of a **righteous man** can accomplish much.

Elijah was a man with a **nature** like ours,
and he **prayed earnestly** that it would **not rain**,
and it did **not rain** on the earth for **three years** and **six months**.

Then he **prayed again**, and the sky poured **rain**
and the **earth** produced its **fruit**." (James 5:10-18)

Closing Prayer