

Do Not Judge
One Another
In Disputable
Matters

Romang 14: 1 - 13

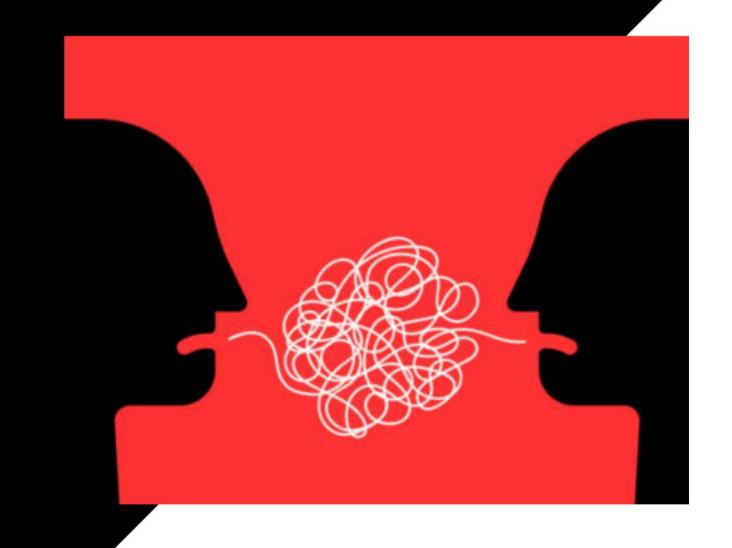


LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Romans 12 - 14

ROMANS 14

1 Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarrelling over disputable matters.



13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy.

Romans 13





DO NOT JUDGE ONE ANOTHER!



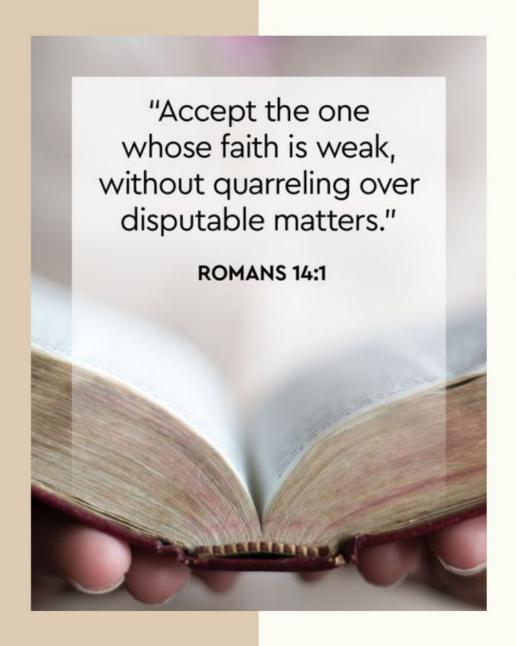
Diet

Romans 14:2



Sacred Days

Romans 14:5



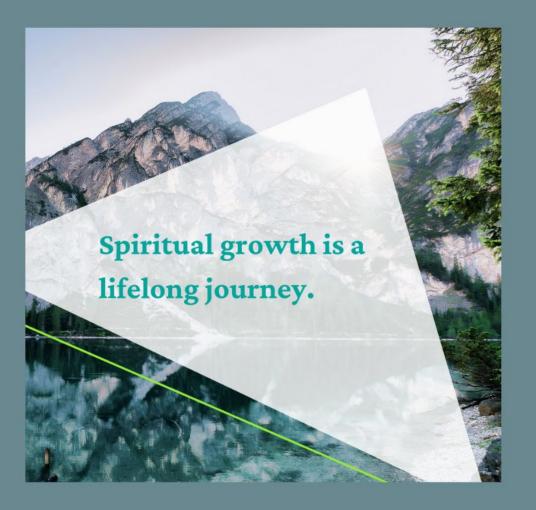
2 One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

Romans 14

The Weak In FAITH

An Issue of Spiritual Growth & Maturity





RAY STEDMAN

The problem is that he does not understand truth. Remember, Jesus himself said, "If anyone continue in my word, he shall be my disciple indeed and he shall know the truth and the truth will set him free," (John 8:31–32).

Therefore, the mark of understanding truth is freedom; it is liberty. That is why Paul calls the person who understands truth clearly one who is strong in the faith, while those who do not understand it clearly are weak in the faith.





WEAK IN FAITH

He has not discovered the meaning of Christian freedom. He is at heart still a legalist. He sees Christianity as a thing of rules and regulations. His whole aim is to govern his life by a series of laws and observances.

WILLIAM BARCLAY



WEAK IN FAITH

He has not yet liberated himself from a belief in the efficacy of works. In his heart he believes that he can gain God's favour by doing certain things and abstaining from doing others. Basically, he is still thinking of what he can do for God more than of what God has done for him.

WILLIAM BARCLAY





Paul's Conviction

ROMANS 14

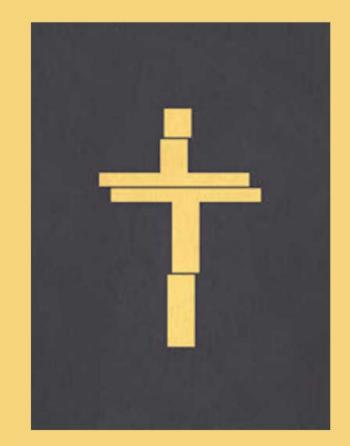
14 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.

1 CORINTHIANS 8

7 But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. 8 But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do.

Distortion of The Christian Faith

It has given rise to the idea that Christianity is a "do not do something" idea, a "don't" religion. This distorts the freedom that is the message of the gospel. It propagates the feeling that Christianity is a set of rules to be obeyed, and the freedom of the sons of God is denied. The world therefore, gets a totally false idea of what the church is all about. This has happened widely in our day and for the most part, I think, the "narrow party" has triumphed in the evangelical churches. This is why many people will not touch the church with a 25-foot pole, even though they are fantastically interested in the gospel. They see the church as having imposed standards and rules of conduct that have nothing to do with the Scriptures. These are artificial regulations that only the church has brought about.



Rise Above Your Differences of Opinions



The one who eats
everything must not
treat with contempt
the one who does not,
and the one who does
not eat everything
must not judge the one
who does, for God
has accepted them.

Romans 14:3



We Are Not Their Masters

4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

(Romans 14)

"God is well able to transform men into servants who are satisfactory."

(Phillips Translation)



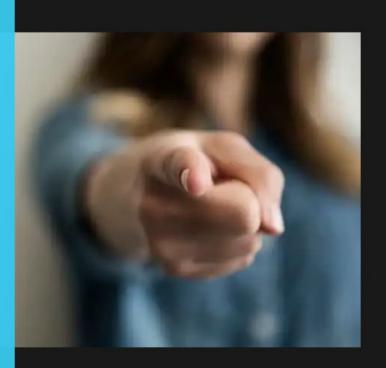
These Are Matters of Convictions

5 One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. 6 Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. (Romans 14)



Romans 14

7 For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. 8 If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. 9 For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.



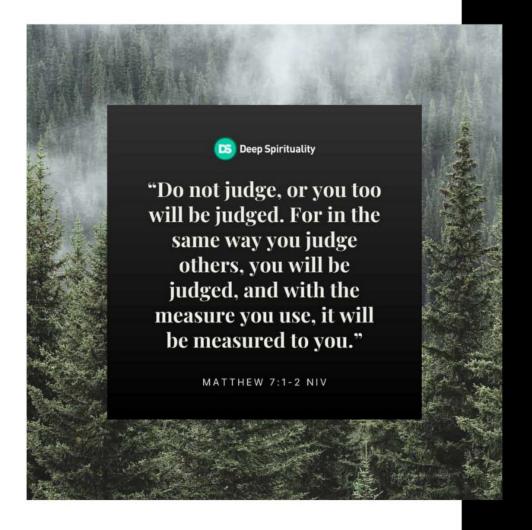
We Will All Stand Before Christ's Judgment Seat

10 You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. 11 It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "Every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God."

12 So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. (Romans 14)



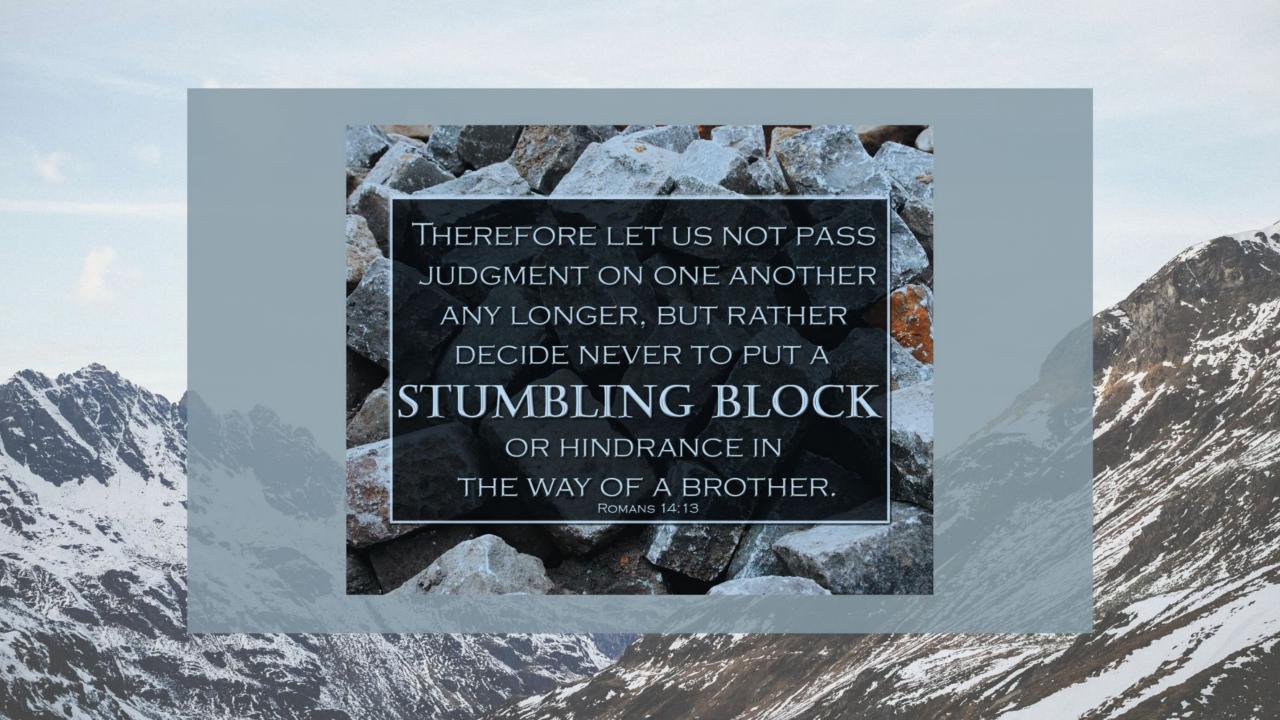
12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment. (James 2)





F. GODET

"Don't judge your brother on non-essential matters, because God will judge him. Judge yourself, because God will judge you."





In essentials unity, in nonessentials (doubtful matters) liberty, in all things charity.

Rupertus Meldenius