

It's NOT About YOU ~ Romans 14:13-23

→ Scripture Reading - Rom. 14:12-14, 17-19

INTRODUCTION

- 1- Genuine Acceptance of one another should ALWAYS be our goal as believers
- 2- Christians can disagree over Preferences and Practices and BOTH be right with God
- 3- We must Submit to the Lordship of Christ FIRST - and stop Judging other Believers

Purpose NOT to be the CAUSE of Stumbling ~ Romans 14:13-15 PTW

¹³ Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way. ¹⁴ As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean. ¹⁵ If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died.

IMPLICATIONS

¹³ ...make up your mind **NOT to** put any stumbling block or **OBSTACLE** in your brother's way.

If I selfishly parade my RIGHTS in these matters, I can do irreparable damage in the life of a weaker brother. It is not worth it when you remember that his soul was redeemed at such a high cost - the precious blood of the Lamb. MacDonald

The Kingdom of God is NOT about Eating and Drinking ~ Romans 14:16-18 PTW

¹⁶ Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, ¹⁸ because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.

Righteousness, peace and joy come not from what we eat or drink but from WHO we are filled with - the Holy Spirit. HNTC

IMPLICATIONS

Matthew 11:18-19 (NIV) For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ The **Son of Man** came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and "sinners..."

Pursue HARMONY and Building UP One Another ~ Romans 14:19-21

¹⁹ Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

¹⁹ So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of one another's character. JBP

²⁰ Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. ²¹ It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.

IMPLICATIONS

When in DOUBT... DON'T ~ Romans 14:22-23 PTW

²² So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. ²³ But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.

²² You may believe there's nothing wrong with what you are doing, but **keep it between yourself and God...** (NLT)

¹ Accept him whose **faith is WEAK**, without passing judgment on **disputable matters**.

TAKE AWAY ??

Romans 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship.

Luke 17:7-10 (NLT) When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, 'Come in and eat with me'? ⁸ No, he says, 'Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat. Then you can eat later.' ⁹ And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not. ¹⁰ In the same way, when you obey M E you should say, 'We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.'"

Well Done my Good and Faithful...

Leader Teacher
Pastor— Missionary
Evangelist Music Leader
Deacon Sunday School Teacher
...SERVANT

Were the whole realm of Nature mine, That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.