

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God



9/11 Memorial and Museum: "Foundation Room"

Accept One Another

Romans 14:1-15:13

Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but not for the purpose of* passing judgment on his opinions. ²One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables *only*. ³Let not the one who eats regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and let not the one who does not eat judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.

⁴Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and stand he will, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One man regards one day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Let each person be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶He 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.

(Romans 14:1-6)

Division in the Church:

- likely a division between Jewish and Gentile believers over continuing loyalty to the Mosaic Law (diet/days)
- Paul is not concerned with the correctness of either group but with mutual acceptance, peace and the building up of one another

⁷For not one of us lives to himself, and not one dies to himself;

⁸for if we live, we live to the Lord, or if we die, we die to the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

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

(Romans 14:7-9)

Lordship of Christ

- Christ's death and resurrection have established Him as Lord over all believers, so that all our activities are to the Lord

Lordship of Christ

1. What Christians do not live for
 - nothing at all that a Christian does is done with reference to himself alone
 - a Christian by definition is a bond-slave of Christ Jesus (cf. Rom. 6:22)

Lordship of Christ

2. What Christians do live (and die) for
 - all aspects of the Christian's life are carried out with a view to what pleases the Lord (cf. Rom. 12:1-2)
 - Christians "die unto the Lord" by...
 - knowing that death is in the Lord's hands
 - knowing that death is "gain"
 - being conscious that we belong to the Lord

...Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.
For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

(Philippians 1:20-21)

Lordship of Christ

3. What Christ died and rose for
 - *that He might be Lord of all believers – dead and living*
 - this lordship was only the result and reward of His death and resurrection
 - He entered the realm of death, conquered it, and rose as the Lord of life on our behalf

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;

¹⁵ and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

(2 Corinthians 5:14-15)