

Joyful at Heart class,

Our Sunday discipleship class will be Romans 14:1-13 “I accept you, but...”. We will focus on the Law of Liberty. Below is the NKJV of our passage and some study questions.

¹Receive ^aone who is weak in the faith, *but* not to disputes over doubtful things. ²For one believes he ^bmay eat all things, but he who is weak eats *only* vegetables. ³Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and ^clet not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. ^{4d}Who are you to judge another’s servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

^{5e}One person esteems *one* day above another; another esteems every day *alike*. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶He who ^fobserves the day, observes *it* to the Lord; ^gand he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe *it*. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for ^hhe gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. ⁷For ⁱnone of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. ⁸For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. ⁹For ^jto this end Christ died ^kand rose and lived again, that He might be ^lLord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For ^mwe shall all stand before the judgment seat of ⁿChrist. ¹¹For it is written:

^o*“As I live, says the Lord,
Every knee shall bow to Me,
And every tongue shall confess to God.”*

¹²So then ^peach of us shall give account of himself to God. ¹³Therefore let us not judge one another ^qanymore, but rather resolve this, ^rnot to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother’s way.

V1-4

V1 - What is the clear command?

- What is the caveat?
- Why did Paul think it important to include this admonition?

V3 – Why should we accept weaker believers without quarreling over their opinions—even if we think their faith should be stronger like ours?

V4 – What is the principle Paul offers in V4?

V5-8

V5 - Paul moves beyond food to the sanctity of days of the week. What is the contrast between v5 and the previous verses 2-4 regarding eating?

V6 – What is the basis for maintaining any distinctions?

V7-8 - Paul provides another reason for not making distinctions, which is?

V8-9 – What is the principle that is to govern our decisions in these types of issues?

V10-13

V11 – What is the issue of God's sovereignty pointed to in v11 - and the basis of this in v12?

- Are we forbidden from judging? What is the scriptural warning associated with judging?

V13 - Paul provides a negative and a positive exhortation – what are they?

- Given what we have read so far in Chapter 14, what are his specific concerns?

Regarding the transition back to in-person classes. What I would like to do is complete Romans first. Then return to where we left off in our study of Genesis. When we complete Romans, the next Sunday will be the first time we will return to class.

As indicated, we will attempt to have Zoom up and running during the class session for those that are not yet comfortable returning. I think the first Sunday back will be logistics, books and proofing out the Zoom capability from the classroom. I will also provide a summary of where we left off in Genesis to reset our memories.

Have a blessed week and I hope to chat with you all on Sunday.

Ward