

Romans XIV/Session #14
April 25, 2021

Essential background: Jew/Gentile _____ in the church

Large, dynamic church, primarily Gentiles, minority Jews

Jew/Gentile _____ threatened _____ and progressive sanctification

The weak in faith were overly rigid about certain practices and would judge others not like them, while the strong in understanding Christian liberty despised these weaker brothers and held them in contempt.

Weak = Jewish Christians who abstained from certain foods (playing it safe) and observed special days (Sabbaths, Feasts, Fasting/Prayer days) in loyalty to the Law of Moses and Jewish heritage. It's likely a few Gentiles sympathetic to Jewish ethics joined them.

Strong = Gentile Christians + few "liberated" Jewish Christians who ate whatever they wanted and ignored these special days, treating every day alike.

Observations of chapter 14 ...

To better understand Romans 14, let us read I Cor. 8.

Romans 14 Outline:

- I. Four Reasons not to _____ nor _____ Your Brother (vv.1-12)**
 - a. He's a _____ (vv.1-4)
 - b. His _____ are right (vv.5-6)
 - c. He belongs to the Lord (vv.7-9)
 - d. God will _____ us all (vv.10-12)
 - i. Isa. 45:23
 - ii. 2 Cor. 5:10

Q: But what about I Cor. 5, Mat. 18 and church discipline?

- II. **Seven Rules of _____ (vv.13-23)**
- a. Do not cause a brother to _____ (v.13)
 - b. Realize that understanding among Christians _____ (v.14)
 - c. Prioritize _____ over being _____ (v.15)
 - d. Keep the main thing the main thing (vv.16-18)
 - e. Pursue _____ and edification not personal rights (vv.19-21)
 - f. Be convinced in your own _____ (v.22)
 - g. Never violate your _____ (v.23)
- Doug Moo: “Violation of the dictates of the conscience, even when the conscience does not conform perfectly with God’s will, is sinful.”

Applications and Discussion

- Christian Sabbath/Lord’s Day debates
- Christmas and Easter practices
- Social drinking
- Movies, music and reading
- Smoking
- Gambling
- Tats and piercings
- Masks and vaccines