

Romans 14:1

Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but* not for *the purpose of* passing judgment on his opinions.

- Accept – to take into ones fellowship
- Weak in faith – One whose faith falters
- Not passing judgment – not quarrelling
- Opinions – Reasoning or why someone thinks the way they think.

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Strong Believer

- Walks in faith
- Walks in confidence of His/Her position in Christ
- Concerns over condition are met with rest
- Grace is seen as the free unmerited, unlimited gift of God
- Romans 8:28 – “all things” really means “**ALL THINGS....**”
- Setting mind on things above (Colossians 3:1-3)

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The Weak Believer

- What two areas are most commonly symptomatic weak in the life of a weak believer?
 - Knowledge of God's word
 - Sanctificational immaturity [condition *not* position!]

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The Non-Believer

The non-believer has the same mindset as the weak believer! They think that they need to change things, do things or determine a solid baseline for works to be good enough to be a Christian or earn God's salvation.

The immature believer carries these very same notions into their believing life if not checked by a strong believer in edification!

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Nike (Victorious Shoes)

- The strong believer is to receive in, welcome, embrace and be accepting of the weaker believer
- A debt of love (as in Romans 13:8) is owed to the weaker believer
- Embracing the weaker believer like Christ embraced us when we were infants in Christ!
- Enabled by the mercies of God to do this

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Romans 14:2

One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables *only*.

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Romans 14:3

The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him.

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Romans 14:3

- Judgment within Christian liberty simply should not happen
- Ever.
- Ever.
- Ever.

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Romans 14:4

Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

When a believer attempts to judge another believer who is acting within Christian liberty the judging believer usurps the authority of God

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Romans 14:4

At what point in Grace does the believer fall down? Where does God's grace show as insufficient?

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Romans 14:5-6

One person regards one day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. He 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.

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Romans 14:5-6

What does full conviction entail for the strong believer?

What does full conviction entail for the weak believer?

What should the attitude of the omnivore be in contrast to the herbivore?

Trick question: there should be no contrast. They should both be thankful unto God!

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Romans 14:7

For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; (see Philippians 1:21)

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Romans 14:7

Judgment outside of the context of God's sovereignty and involvement in our lives is futile and arrogant.

Our life is in Christ

Our death to sin is in Christ

Our resurrection is in Christ

Our position is in Christ

By God's mercies we live or die

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