

ROMANS 14: WHEN CHRISTIANS DISAGREE

- ❖ Believers must learn how to disagree without being disagreeable.
- ❖ How Christians resolve differences determine their maturity level.
- ❖ Christians must learn that some issues are essential and others are non-essential for fellowship.
- ❖ St. Augustine said "In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity."
- ❖ Should Christians judge one another?

OUTLINE

Verses 1-12. Receive one another.

Verses 13-23 Edifying one another.

- V1. Who does Paul deem to be weak in the faith? How should we respond to immature Christians?
- V2. What is one difference between strong and weak Christians?
- V3. We should receive one another because God has received all of us.
**Christian fellowship should not be based on food or religious calendars.*
- V4. Christians must understand that God is our judge.
- Vvs. 5-9. Some practices in the church are based on tradition; however we should not allow traditional values to determine our fellowship with one another.
- V9. As long as we believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ fellowship should be maintained, if possible.
- Vvs 10-12. Be careful about judging one another for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of The Lord. What is the "bema" seat?
- V13. What are the two admonitions given to the believer? The second places an extreme responsibility on us. How do we cause a person not to stumble?
- V14. Everything that God made is good, but we can pervert God's original intent.
- V15. Even though engaging in a certain act may not be wrong, but if your weaker brother is offended by it then refrain from that activity.

- V16. Mature believers do not want their good works to be tarnished by a nonessential issue.
- V17. What is the kingdom of God actually about?
- V18. No one disapprove of right living, a peaceful disposition, and a joyful life.
- V19. How do we edify one another?
- Vvs 20-21. Both the strong believer and the weak believer need to grow. The strong needs to grow in love and tolerance, and the weak needs to grow in knowledge.
- Vvs 22-23. Christians must not force their opinions on one another.
**The conclusion of this matter is addressed in Rom. 15: 1-7.*