

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

NT Survey Lesson 123--Romans 14

Introduction: In chapter fourteen Paul applies the principles of the gospel to the question of fellowship. In as much as the church consisted of people of varying levels of understanding and from varying cultural backgrounds, it was important that Christians accept each other and help each other grow toward spiritual maturity. In this chapter Paul teaches the principles by which Christians may govern their fellowship with others. The key to fellowship is the preservation of maturing faith.

Lesson aim: To encourage each Christian to accept his fellow-believers and help them grow toward spiritual maturity.

Accept each other without judging--Rom. 14:1-12

1. What does Paul urge the believer to do with the man who is weak in faith? (v. 1) What should he not do with this man?
2. What example of differences did Paul cite among the believers at Rome? (v. 2) What did Paul tell the man with the faith to eat all foods to do? (v. 3) What did he tell the man who could not eat all foods to do? Why?
3. What did Paul say it was inappropriate for any to do to the servant of another? (v. 4) What did Paul say God was able to do?
4. What other example of difference did Paul cite? (v. 5) What did he urge each to do? Paul describes each man who differs as doing what he does for whom? (v. 6)
5. What is Paul's point in v. 7-9?
6. Before whose judgment seat will all stand? (v. 10) To whom shall each of us give account? (v. 11-12) Therefore, what should we refrain from doing? (v. 12)

Do not cause the weak to stumble--Rom. 14:13-23

1. What did Paul urge the believers to determine not to do? (v. 13)
2. What did Paul say he knew about unclean foods? (v. 14) But what about the man who thinks a food is unclean?
3. What then did Paul say not to do to the brother for whom Christ died? (v. 15)
4. What exhortation is given in v. 16? What is the basis for this command? (v. 17)
5. What two things should each Christian follow after or pursue? (v. 19)
6. What does it mean to "give offense" to a brother? (v. 20-21)
7. What is the man with faith to engage in some activity urged to do? (v. 22) What further exhortation does Paul give this man?
8. What is the condition of a man who practices a thing with doubt in his heart? (v. 22-23) Whatever is not "of faith" is what?