

# A Commentary on the Book of Romans – Volume 7



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# Romans Lesson #61

## Romans 13:1-5

### **“Submission is Strength”**

The number “thirteen” in your Bible is the number of rebellion. Therefore, this chapter is about submission to Authority.

1. Every soul is to be subjected to authority.

**Verse 1: “*Let every soul...*”** This is talking to saved and lost. A lost person has a soul. They might be spiritually dead. But they have a soul. ***“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers...”***

### **Verse 13**

**Deuteronomy 17:12: “*And the man that will do presumptuously...*”** In other words, willfully. It means you boldly commit to do wrong. You do not care; you are arrogant. You are bold about what you are doing. You do not care what Mom and Dad say. You do not care what the preacher says, and you are only going to what you want. ***“...and will not hearken unto the priest...”***

To hearken means to submit. It means to “hear with the intent to obey.” ***“...and will not hearken unto the priest that standeth to minister there before the Lord thy God, or unto the judge, even that man shall die: and thou shalt put away the evil from Israel.”***

**Titus 3:1: “Put them in mind to be subject...”**

To put in mind means to put in remembrance. To

put in mind refers to submission. In other words, by preaching I am reminding you to subject to the authorities in your life.

To be subject means to be under the power and dominion of another. It means to be exposed, to make liable, to be accountable, subject to a rigid test. You are to be submissive to principalities. That would include your father, your pastor, your teachers, your president, and your boss. ***“...principalities and powers...”*** Principalities means those who have influence over you. The power would speak of those who have the ability to command you or have the right to govern you. It means you are to obey them.

The Bible says, ***“Children obey your parents in the Lord.”***

**Proverbs 6:23:** ***“For the commandment is the lamp...”*** A commandment is a rule, a commandment is a law, and a commandment sets boundaries. Rules light our way. A reproof is when someone allows for correction and instruction. Reproof is saying you are not doing it right; you are doing some things wrong. You need to change that. (Write this down: “The only way to hear reproof is to be submissive. Submission is strength not weakness.”)

**Proverbs 6:23; 8:33**

Hearing means listening, and hearing means understanding.

Christians are supposed to be teachable.

**Proverbs 9:9**

When you read your Bible, do you ever get reproved by the Holy Ghost? That is how you grow. (Write this down: “A wise man knows he does not know much and needs to be taught more.”) Remember, “Growth is change, and trials are a method of instructing.”

**Ezekiel 17:5:** This story talks about an eagle who flies down into a city. When he gets there, the eagle flies to the largest and highest tree in the entire city, snips a twig off the top branch, and carries it below into the city. Then, the eagle plants the twig right in the middle of the city. At the same time, another eagle flies and plants a seed in a fruitful field by great waters, and the man saw that seed grow into a tree. The Bible says, “A goodly tree that bore fruit.” Something happens to the tree.

**Verses 9-10:** Why did it wither? **Verse 12:** It is a rebellious house. **Verse 15:** They rebelled against the ambassadors. **Verse 18:** He despised the oath and broke the covenant. **Verse 24.**

What made the first tree grow and the second one not? **Verse 6.** Grow low...

### **Proverbs 10:17; 17:10-11**

If you have a difficult time being reproved, rebuked, or corrected. Here is your problem: pride.

### **Hebrews 12:5; 13:7**

**Hebrews 13:17:** “*Obey them...*” You are to submit to their direction and control. It means their power, their authority, and their command. That means they have the right to check you. “*Obey them that have the rule over*

***you...”*** A pastor is supposed to rule the church. He draws the line, and he commands. That is what it means to rule. ***“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves...”***

To submit means to be under the rule. Why should I submit?

1. ***“They watch for your souls...”*** That means they look out for danger in your life. Your authorities will see things in your life that you do not see. They watch to see if you are sick. They watch to see if you are in any danger. To watch means to inspect, to guard, to be protective. To watch out for the ambush = a surprise attack. They are to protect you from hurting yourself. Protect you from the world, protect you from the devil’s crowd, from the devil’s music, and from the devil’s influence.
2. It shows your submission to God.

#### **James 4:7**

***“Obey them that have the rule over you for they watch for your souls, as they may give an account...”*** Your parents will give an account; your Pastor will give an account; your teachers will give an account. That they may do it with joy and not with grief: ***“For that is unprofitable for you.”***

Do you know who was in power when Paul wrote this? Nero, a wicked Roman emperor who lined the streets of the heads of people who were Christians, lit his gardens

with their bodies, and drank and had parties while the Christians burned. He used dead Christians as wicks. He lit up his gardens with dead Christians.

***“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God...”***

Pilate says when Jesus Christ came to him, Pilate started asking him questions and Christ wouldn't answer him. He said, ***“Know ye not that I have power to crucify thee or to release thee?”*** Christ said, “I am not going to let that go unsaid.” Jesus said, ***“Thou couldest have no power at all against thee, unless it were given to thee from above.”*** John 19:11

Pilate did give the sentence, and Jesus Christ was crucified. Even Pilate, a Roman governor, was in power by the permissive will of God.

***“Promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, not from the south, but God is the judge, he putteth down the one and setteth up the other.”***

God is in charge. God puts certain constituted authorities over us. Some ask, “Well, what about? What about this?”

### **Romans 13:1**

You ask, “What if they are wicked?” Do you realize that if we did not have police or sheriffs or a mayor or security, or a military, there would be an anarchy.

### **Romans 13:1**

Not only are you to submit to authority, but also:

### 3. You are to respect authority

I am talking about respect for authority. You say what is authority?

A God-given right to tell you what to do. You might not always respect the man in office, but we must respect the office. You are not to speak evil of the ruler of my people. We are constantly commanded to pray for the ruler.

You are not to speak evil of your Pastor, your dad, or your husband even if you might think they are wrong. Get away from people who are.

**1 Timothy 2:1-2: “*For kings...*”** Nero was the king. You are to thank God for a wicked, evil king. Notice, **“*For all that are in authority...*”**

#### **Verse 2**

You are to pray for your authorities.

We to make first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, giving of thanks for kings, and for all that are in authority.

In a subject like this when submitting to authority, remember:

**Jeremiah 29:7: “*And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives...*”**

It says to seek the peace. Were they to be revolutionaries and revolt? No, they were: ***“And seek the peace... that we might live a quiet and***

***peaceable life.”***

The opposite of submission is resistance and rebellion. Resistance means you are not willing to yield.

You are told to stop. You are told to quit; you are warned.

**Jeremiah 23:8-17**

**Romans 13:2**

**Verse 7**

That is the attitude of a Christian.

**Ezra 6:10**

There are three institutions of God:

1. Family: The Husband = the head. The children are not equal with the parents in decision-making. The home is not a democracy.
2. Government: **Genesis 9**: God establishes Government.
3. The Church

**1 Peter 2:13: “Submit yourself to every ordinance of man...”**

Keep off the grass. Be here at a certain time, paint this room, clean this, do not throw garbage on the street...

***“Submit yourself to every ordinance of man...”***  
Why? ***“...for the Lords sake:”*** It is your testimony. When Your dad or mother tells you to do something, do it! Wives, if your husband tells you to do something, do it! If your



Pastor says, "Do this," you have to do it!

### **Verses 13-14**

**Verse 15:** What is the will of God?

Obedying the God given authorities in your life. Why do you submit to authority? To put to silence the ignorance of evil men."

**Verse 15-16:** "As free..."

**Verses 16-17:** Four commands: "*Honor the King.*"

### **Romans 13:1-2**

You are to be subject to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake. It is an ordinance of man, but if it does not contradict the Bible, it is now an ordinance of God. Every ordinance of man that does not contradict the Bible is an ordinance of God.

### **Verse 2**

Two kinds of damnation:

1. Temporal
2. Eternal

### **Romans 14:23; 1 Corinthians 11:29**

Who can take the Lords supper? Saved or Lost? Saved.

The cults teach you take the Lord's supper to get saved. We teach that you have to be saved to take the Lord's supper.

**1 Corinthians 11:29:** Temporal damnation.

**Romans 13:2:** ***"Whoso ever resisteth the power..."  
"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God."***

Does Satan have power? Yes, he does. There is an exception to the rule.

Remember when Satan took Jesus up into an exceedingly high mountain, and he showed him all the kingdoms of the world? All this power will I give thee if you fall down and worship. Satan had power. He is called the prince and the power of the air. Ephesians says, ***"We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers and the rulers of the darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places."***

**Romans 13:1:** ***"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers..."*** It then says, ***"There is no power but of God..."*** So, God is allowing Satan to rule this world.

**Romans 13:1-2**

There is a power you are to resist. You are to rebel against Satan's authority. There is a spirit of rebellion in you that wants to rebel against sin. There is something in us where we do not want people telling us what to do. I do not want anybody telling me that I am wrong.

Then do not do what Satan says. Resist the power of Satan.

There are two great powers in this world: the power of God and the power of Satan.

**Romans 13:2-3: “For rulers are not a terror to good works...”**

Is that an all-the-time truth or a general truth? General truth. **“For rulers (human rulers) are not a terror to good works...”** Human rulers have faults.

**Verses 3-4: “For he (the policeman) is a minister of God...”**

**Romans 13:4: “...But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid...”**

Fear is a healthy motive. If you do not do what the constituted authorities tell you to do, you are to be afraid. **“...he beareth not the sword in vain...”**

There is an armed minister of God protecting people.

**“For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain...” “...for he is the minister of God (second time), revenger...”** When you revenge with a sword, you will not say, “Bend over,” and start whipping them with the sword. You do not spank with a side of the sword. It is supposed to be straight on, or a hack. **“...a revenger to execute wrath...”** When you execute someone with a sword that is capital punishment. Where is capital punishment in the Bible? Right there! Capital punishment is scriptural.

**Verses 4-5: “Wherefore ye must needs be subject...”** Submission is strength. **“...not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.”**

The wrath there is outward. The conscience is inward. God here is giving you a higher motive than fear of punishment. Here he is saying you need to be worried about a clean conscience. He is talking about outward wrath, and we need to be subject not only for wrath (outwardly) but also for conscience sake to have inner peace.

Two motives: for the Christian we have a higher motive.

Subject means under authority, under submission.

**Verses 5-6: “For for this cause pay tribute...” Taxes.**

**Verses 7-8**

This is when Israel wanted the king to be like all the people.

**1 Samuel 8:5**

They were being conformed to this world.

**Verse 20: “That we also may be like all the nations...”**

**1 Samuel 12:12**

God was their King, but they wanted a king to be set over them. No group of people ever loses their freedom: they always give it up little by little. “The only thing necessary for evil to triumph, is for good men to do nothing.” Let me show you where government came into play officially.

### **Genesis 9:5-6**

### **Daniel 4:17**

Even though we might have a wicked person in power, and they could be a low-down scoundrel.

### **Daniel 4:25, 32**

God puts into power who He wants in power. You might say, though, “Well, our money goes to fund abortion.”

### **Proverbs 28:2**

Big government is a result of the sins of the people. You can have a theocracy or a democracy. Democracy is the result of the sins of the people.

### **Proverbs 14:34**

You draw the line on authority when it violates your faith.

### **Ecclesiastes 8:2**

You are to keep the commandment of the king just as long as it does not violate the Bible.

## Lesson 61 Questions

1. Why should we submit to every ordinance of man?
  - a. Anything else is illegal
  - b. For the Lord's sake
  - c. You will disappoint them otherwise
  - d. Man's ordinances are infallible
2. Capital punishment is not scriptural.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. Submission is:
  - a. Weakness
  - b. Strength
4. To hearken means "to hear with the intent to \_\_\_\_\_."
  - a. Rebel
  - b. Repeat
  - c. Obey
  - d. Reconcile
5. As a preacher, you are to remind people to:
  - a. Stop sinning
  - b. Submit to authority
  - c. Sin secretly
  - d. Smile at people
6. The only way to hear reproof is to be:
  - a. Satisfied
  - b. Sincere
  - c. Sinful
  - d. Submissive
7. A wise man knows he does not know much and needs to be taught more.
  - a. True
  - b. False

8. What is authority?
  - a. A rule of man
  - b. God-given authority to tell you what to do
  - c. People sent as part of the curse to keep you under their thumb
  - d. All of the above
9. The opposite of submission is:
  - a. Resistance
  - b. Rebellion
  - c. Both a and b
  - d. Neither a nor b
10. Name the three institutions of God:

## Romans Lesson #62

**Authority: Lesson #2**

**Romans 13:3-8**

**Verse 1:** Subject means underneath. That is, place yourself under the authority. You are to be in submission to your authorities. Four institutions: Home, Family (**Genesis 2-3**), Government (**Genesis 9:5-6**), and the Church (**Romans 13** primarily is talking about Government and Church.)

**Romans 13:1-2**

Remember, you are to submit yourself to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake. Stopping at a red light is the ordinance of God. I believe wearing your seat belt is the ordinance of God.

**Romans 13:2:** *"Whosoever therefore resisteth the power..."* Resisteth means unyielding, opposing, withstanding. **James 4:7:** *"Submit yourselves therefore to God. resist the devil, and he will flee from you."* The reason you are not resisting the devil is that you are not living a godly life. The reason you are not getting victory is because you are not in submission to God. God is a God of order.

- Repent first, then get baptized.
- Obey first, then the blessings will follow.
- Give first, then it will be given unto you.
- Submission to God comes before the power to resist the devil.

Submission is a conscious decision of willingly putting myself under the authority of another person.



**Acts 9:6:** ***"Lord what wilt thou have me to do?"*** That is a submissive state. He did not say, "Lord, here is what I would like to do. Lord, here is what I want to do. Lord, I do not want to do that." When Paul calls Jesus Lord, he is saying, "I am submitting myself. I am putting myself under your authority. I am going to let you dictate to me what to do, when I do it, and how I do it." Write this down: "If I do not submit to God, I cannot resist the devil." He will be your constant companion, and He will give you constant trouble if you are not in submission to Him.

Illustration:

Someone gets saved but refuses to get baptized. The reason a person who will not get baptized will not make it in the Christian life, is because they refuse to submit to God. The power is not in the water, the power is in submission.

Remember: Good men have character. Godly men are in submission to God, and God uses and gives them victory.

When a woman submits herself to her husband, the husband has a responsibility to use his power to protect her.

Remember this: When I submit myself to God, when I put myself under the authority of God, it is His responsibility to protect and deliver me in His will and timing.

**Romans 13:2:** Are you resisting God or submitting to Him?

### **Zechariah 3:1**

### **Matthew 5:39**

If you are not resisting the devil, you are allowing evil to influence you. Evil is corruption in your heart, bad qualities: evil thoughts, evil deeds, and evil speaking. You are corrupt and perverse. Evil can be anything that disturbs peace, such as anarchy against authority. Evil is someone who commits sin or a crime deliberately.

**Luke 21:15:** Notice the word “gainsaying.” Gainsaying means resisting, opposing, or contradicting. You contradict by words. You purposely change what has been given.

### **Jude 11: “...gainsaying of Core.”**

- Opposing the preaching, opposing leadership, and the age-old sin of down-playing someone else’s ability, so they do not look as good.
- You purposely put stumbling blocks in the way to stop the work of God going forward. To stumble means to trip, to obstruct in progress. You make the truth look like a puzzle.
- Competition = you are in competition with your authorities. You are out to prove yourself to people.
- Down-playing another person’s abilities, to hinder, to defeat, to destroy, to prevent, to affect.

### **Acts 6:9-15**

They set up false witnesses up against Stephen. Look

what God said they did: **Acts 7:51** ***“Resist the Holy Ghost...”***

## **2 Timothy 3:8**

Resist the Holy Ghost. The damnation is temporal damnation.

Paul used the Roman law more than once to protect his life and extend his ministry.

He obeyed the law to what extent? Paul submitted to capital punishment.

**Acts 25:11:** Paul is on trial. ***“For if I be offender, or have committed anything worthy of death...”*** That means there is more than one reason to death. It is just not for killing someone. In the Bible, rape was punishable by death. There are ten reasons I found for not suffering a witch to live. There is more than ten reasons capital punishment should be used.

**Verse 11:** ***“For if I be an offender, or have committed anything worthy of death, I refuse not to die...”*** He says, “If I have capital punishment coming, here I am; take me.” ***“...but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Ceasar.”***

You know what they did? They put him on a boat to ship him to Rome. Paul went on the government’s tax dollars to preach. One time, when Paul came out of prison, they sent 470 soldiers. He had a guard of four hundred spearmen, soldiers, and horsemen protecting Paul so he could preach the gospel at Rome.

**Romans 13:3: “For rulers...”** This is the general rule. ***“...are not a terror of good works but to evil...”*** That means they stop crime; they are trying to stop Christians.

Can a Christian ever disobey government?

**Acts 5:29**

I am a citizen of Moldova. I am to obey the laws, but I also have a citizenship that is higher than the earth.

What do you do when there is a conflict between the two? **Acts 5:29:** What do they tell them not to do?

**Acts 5:28**

We told you not to witness. We told you not to preach. We told you not to give gospel tracts. I am a citizen of two countries.

**Ephesians 2:19:** I am a citizen of heaven, and you are a citizen of heaven. **Verse 20**

**2 Corinthians 5:20: “*Now then we are ambassadors for Christ...”***

Do you know what an ambassador is? He represents another country. I am an ambassador of Jesus Christ. I have a higher calling than the laws of this land. When the laws of this land and the laws of God conflict, I obey God rather than man.

**Hebrews 11:10, 13**

You are to be looking for the city, you are a stranger on this earth. **Verses 14, 16**

- I am a fellow citizen
- I am an ambassador

**Ecclesiastes 8:2:** *"I counsel thee to keep the king's commandment..."* Those are earthly laws. **Verse 2.** You are to keep the commandment as long as it does not violate God's laws.

**Romans 13:** Let me give some examples of people disobeying the laws of the land.

**Exodus 1:** Pharaoh commanded all the baby boys, and the Egyptian midwives, or the Hebrew midwives they disobeyed Pharaoh by keeping the boy babies alive. God blessed the midwives and made them houses.

**Daniel 3:** Nebuchadnezzar made a rule that Shadrach, Meshech, and Abendago, "At what time you hear the sound of the flute, sackbut, and all kinds of music, fall down and worship the golden image." But they did not obey the commandments. God blessed them with a vision of Jesus Christ.

**Daniel 6:** The king makes a decree that they could not pray to any God except the king for thirty days. Daniel, though, still opened his windows toward Jerusalem and prayed to God three times a day like he did before. They knew he was going to do that, so they said, "We will not find any fault with Daniel or his God." He violated the law because he was going to obey God better than man.

**Joshua 2:** God told Rahab to hide the spies, so she sent them out another way.

**Romans 13:3-4**

This minister of God has the right to carry out punishment. Notice two words: ***“Be afraid...”***

Fear is a proper motive for doing good. Fear is a healthy motive for good behavior.

**1 Samuel 28:17-18:** Did God tell Saul to execute wrath upon Amalek? Yes. But he spared Amalek. He saved the best of the sheep. God took away the kingdom away from Saul and gave it to David because Saul would not lead the nation into battle and destroy their enemies.

There is a time when God tells a leader (like a president) to go in and totally wipe out another nation.

### **1 Kings 20:35**

He says, “Man! I am on parole I might go to jail.” The preacher says, “Hit me!” He says, “I am not hitting you. You know I do not believe in hurting people. I believe in love!” Notice, he says, ***“Smite me!”***

### **Verse 36**

I bet when he saw that lion coming, he said, “I will hit him! I will do it!”

### **TOO LATE!!!**

**Verse 37:** ***“Then he (the prophet) found another man, and said, Smite me, I pray thee. And the man smote him, so that in smiting he wounded him.”***

As soon as he got done saying the sentence, he was down on the ground. You talk about a fat lip and a bloody nose. The prophet gets up and says, “That is what I was

after!” He wanted some blood on him.

**Verses 38-39:** *“And as the king passed by, (the prophet with the fat lip and bloody nose) he cried to the king: and he said, Thy servant went out into the midst of the battle...”* He is pretending that he was one of the soldiers, but he was a preacher.

*“...Thy servant went out in the midst of the battle; and behold a man turned aside and brought a man to me...”* he is hollering up to the king who is in the chariot. *“...Keep this man: if by any means he be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a talent of silver.”* Verse 40: *“And as thy servant was busy here, and there, he was gone...”* The prisoner got away.

Verse 40: *“And the king of Israel said unto him, so shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it.”* Verse 41: *“And he hasted, and took the ashes away from his face...”* He is using the ashes on his face to stop the blood flow.

**Verses 41-42:** *“And he said unto him, thus saith the Lord, because thou hast let go out of thy hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction...”*

Verse 41: *“...the king of Israel discerned he was of the prophets.”*

The king said, “Oh no! I opened my big mouth.” You see, he was using a parable against the king. The king had just been to battle

### **Verses 42-43**

There will be a time when God will appoint another

kingdom to utter destruction, and a country better carry it out, or they will have worse problems than they did before.

In the ministry, what you have to watch for is leaders who undermine because they are partial. What do you mean? They will not execute judgment on a certain person because they like them better than someone else.

**Romans 13:4: “...revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.”**

**Verse 5**

**1 Timothy 1:5; 3:9**

You are to always have a conscience void of offense toward God and toward man. If you are going to disobey human laws, make sure you do not disobey God at the same time.

**Verse 6**

**Matthew 17:24-27; 22:15-21**

Pay taxes. Pay your tithes. **Verse 22**

**Romans 13:6-7**



## Lesson 62 Questions

1. Romans 13 primarily talks about:
  - a. Government
  - b. Church
  - c. Both a and b
  - d. Neither a nor b
2. What comes before the power to resist the devil?
  - a. Baptism
  - b. Blessings
  - c. Giving
  - d. Submission
3. People who do not get baptizing are refusing to submit to God.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. As a Christian, should you every disobey the government?
  - a. Never
  - b. Sometimes
  - c. Always
5. We are to obey the rules of the land unless:
  - a. No one else follows them
  - b. They violate God's laws
  - c. You are a Christian
  - d. You are a citizen of heaven
6. Who are some examples of people who have rightly disobeyed earthly government?
  - a. Hebrew midwives
  - b. Daniel
  - c. Rahab
  - d. All of the above

7. Fear is a healthy motivator.
  - a. True
  - b. False
8. You can only obey the laws of God or man.
  - a. True
  - b. False
9. We ought to obey \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Man, God
  - b. God, Man
10. In 1 Kings 20, the preacher pretended to be:
  - a. Angel
  - b. King
  - c. Soldier
  - d. Friend

## Romans Lesson #63

### Romans 13:8-10

**Verse 8: “Owe no man anything...”** To owe means to be indebted, bound to pay, due.

What does this phrase mean? There are a couple of meanings.

***“Owe no man anything, but love one another...”***

We have a debt we need to pay each other. What do mean? Let me ask you a question. Could you ever pay the Lord for what He has done for you? If you served Him for all eternity, you could not pay Him back the debt you owe to Him. You could put forth effort, but can you go to heaven by good works? No! You owe the Lord.

There is a debt I owe: **Romans 14:7-8; 1 Corinthians 9:16**

**Romans 1:14: “I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians: both to the wise, and to the unwise.”**

There is a necessity laid upon me, a need.

Is there a need you could meet?

How are you paying back the debt you owe to the Lord? Are you meeting the Lord’s need? Necessity means emergency. People are dying and going to hell. Necessity is a compulsive force. It is pressing. It is life or death. A man’s actions are determined by causes beyond his control. We are indebted to His blood; we must uphold His life. We must

preach in circumstances. Preaching the gospel is a priority. Preaching the gospel is a pressing issue.

**1 Corinthians 9:16:** There is woe upon me if do not preach the gospel. There is shame on you if you do not preach the gospel to every creature. You are dishonoring the Lord when you do not love others by witnessing to them.

Why are you ashamed?

**Psalms 25:1-2; 24:1-2**

The reason many people are ashamed of Christ is they have never been born again. One of the marks of salvation is that you are not ashamed.

**Romans 10:11; 1 John 2:28**

Will you be ashamed because of a dirty life? The Bible says, ***“A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.”***

What would cause a woman to bring shame on the family? Rebellion and stubbornness. Ladies, when you do not submit to your husband, you are rotten.

- Living in sin will cause you to be ashamed.
- Guilt will cause you to be ashamed.
- Pride will cause you to be ashamed.
- Gross errors will cause you to be ashamed.
- A bad reputation will cause you to be ashamed.
- A past undealt with will cause you to be ashamed.
- Self-righteousness will cause you to be ashamed.

**Psalm 31:17 (30:18); Isaiah 50:5-7**

**1 Peter 4:16**

You owe Jesus Christ!

**2 Corinthians 5:14:** ***“For the love of Christ constraineth us...”*** It drives us. What Jesus did for us should drive us. What Jesus did, should drive us to pray, drives us to preach, drive us to serve, drive us to love more, drive us to give more, drive us to care more, and drive us to sacrifice. To sacrifice our time, our talents, and even our lives if need be.

What controls you? “Constraineth” also means to chain us. It connects us with HIM. Preaching the gospel binds us together with the Lord. You are known to this world by the love you have for Jesus Christ. Your testimony connects you to the Lord.

**2 Timothy 1:16:** ***“The Lord give us mercy unto the house of Onesiphorus; for he oft refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain.”***

Perfect love is when God is loving people through you. What is driving you? Who are you loving?

If you wanted to pay back the Lord and show your gratitude, love one another. The way to pay back the Lord for saving you is by loving others.

**Romans 13:8**

***“Owe no man anything, but love one another...”***

You will always owe that debt to love one another.

An entire lifetime could not pay this debt. You have debt that you owe God.

**Verse 8:** Two strange words show up in **verse 8:** Love and Law.

It is fulfilling the law by loving each other.

Some preachers take one meaning for this verse: ***“Owe no man anything...”*** For instance, they say that because of this verse, you should not buy a house until you have all the money. I do not think that is what it is talking about because banking and investing for gain are not wrong.

#### **Matthew 25:27**

Usury is interest. **Luke 19:23.** So banking and investing for gain are not wrong. You put the money in the bank, and the bank uses my money, and they give me a portion back for using my money.

What does it mean to owe no man anything?

Are your current debts paid up to date? The key is paying on time.

I want to show you some dangers of borrowing.

#### **Proverbs 22:7**

Do you know why you work? Because if you do not, they will take away your house or apartment. Your car. ***“The borrower is servant to the lender.”*** The Bible says, ***“The love of money is the root of all evil.”*** The Bible says that you are not to covet what is your neighbor’s.

You will become a slave to making those payments.

What happens when you need something? You wait until you have the money, then you pay for it. There is a policy here. The church is not a bank. This church is not a lending institution. We tried lending money to people in the past, and they never paid it back.

When you do not pay your bills, you ruin your testimony as well as the church's testimony. Should somebody co-sign for someone else to get a loan? They say: "I will pay you back in two weeks!"

**Proverbs 6:1:** Surety means security. It is like undersigning. When you have two signatures on a document, the one who signs on the bottom is the one most responsible.

**Proverbs 6:1-3:** You better make sure of your friend.

**Verses 4-5:** What is that all about?

It is talking about becoming surety for somebody. Which means you are going to back them up if they cannot pay. Do not co-sign for somebody unless your absolutely certain.

Parents do this for kids. If you are a child, and you do not pay your parents back, you will be cursed of God. If you owe your parents money and you told them you were going to pay them back, you better do it.

***"Owe no man anything..."***

**Proverbs 22:26-27:** He says you will be sleeping on

the floor.

### **Romans 13:8**

People can commit all kinds of sins in the church. We are slow to forgive people in money matters, and we remember and hold grudges because we are covetous. Covetousness becomes our god.

**Proverbs 11:16:** *“A gracious women retaineth honor...”* She keeps pure for her husband. *“...and strong men retain riches.”*

**Psalm 37:21:** *“The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous showeth mercy, and giveth.”*

A weak man is a man is in debt. A person could have done this in the church.

### **Romans 13:8**

“Well, I am having all kinds of trouble, and I cannot pay my bills. What is the first thing you do? You tithe to God. You ask, “Are you trying to get my money?” No way! If you want God to bless your life and family, give and it shall be given unto you.

### **Romans 1:14**

When you are giving someone the gospel, it is the greatest form of love.

### **Romans 1:14-15**

***“Owe no many anything but to love one another...”***

Who is my neighbor? It is anyone I come in contact



with.

**Romans 13:9:** All the new bible's take out the verse, ***"Do not bear false witness..."*** (That verse is gone in the Cornlescui new world translation.

Why take it out? If you are guilty of false witness. It is an old Indian trick: "Cover your tracks." So people cannot tell where you have been.

**Romans 13:9:** ***"...and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended..."*** What is another word for "comprehended"? "Briefly" meaning in short or simply. In other words, if there be any other commandment that is really important. Comprehended means summed up. ***"...it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely..."*** We should keep the Sabbath day? Is it not amazing how somebody believes you are to worship on Saturday, and keep the Sabbath? Seventh-day Adventist is a cult.

Paul purposely left that out. Do you know Paul never says one time, in the thirteen epistles that he wrote, that your to keep the Sabbath. In fact, the Sabbath is not Saturday it is the first day of the week, Sunday.

**Verse 9:** ***"Thou shalt not commit adultery..."*** What is adultery? Whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her have committed adultery already in his heart. Just the look and the thought, the contemplation and the desire, is adultery. Pornography is fornication.

***"Thou shalt not kill..."*** If you hate your brother in your heart, you are a murder. You can commit murder in

your heart and in your mind.

***“Thou shalt not steal...”***

***“Thou shalt not bear false witness...”*** (Lying)

***“Thou shalt not covet...”***

***“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self...”***

**Verse 8:** ***“...for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.”***

You should not be thinking about murder. I should not steal; I should lie; I should not want what somebody has. All I need to think about is that I need to love Him; I need to love Him. Why? Because if I love you, I am not going to kill you. If I love you, I am not going to steal. If I love you, I am not going to lie to you. If I love you, I am not going to want what you have.

### **Verse 10**

If we love each another more, we will not have problems.

**1 Peter 4:8:** Where does it say charity covereth a multitude of sins?

Look how charity is translated in Proverbs.

### **Proverbs 10:12**

Love does not pick the scab of every failure and mess up. Love changes the dressing, washes the wound. It does not pick the scab or throw salt on it. Love covereth all sins.

**Romans 13:9-10:** *“Love worketh no ill to his neighbor...”* In other words, you are not going to hurt anybody by loving them. Love is not going to hurt somebody.

**Romans 8:4:** How do we fulfill the law? The law was fulfilled in me when I trusted Jesus Christ as my Savior.

### **Romans 8:3-4**

The righteousness of the law fulfilled in us. It is done by the Holy Ghost.

That is the only way you can love another Christian that is unlovely, or who has done wrong especially in money matters. It always amazes me how people can hold on to that even when they gave lip service to forgive somebody. If you had problems with somebody in the past and you got that thing patched up, do not give lip service.

Here is how you love somebody like that.

**Romans 5:5:** *“For the Love of God is shed abroad in our hearts (not by effort but...) by the Holy Ghost...”*

God will enable you to love that person.

We are not loving people to get to heaven. We love others because Christ commanded us to. We are debtors to others. If you want to pay back the Lord in a sense, (you cannot but if there is a way) you need to love other people.

### **Matthew 22:34-39**

What is the most important? God first. If you put the second commandment first, you are a communist. You are

just a worldling trying to work your way to heaven. I have heard people say, "The most important thing is love." No way! It is God first.

If you love God like you are supposed to, you will love your neighbor as yourself. If you love your neighbor as yourself, you will not steal, lie, covet, kill, or commit adultery.

Notice **verse 40**.

**Galatians 5:13-14:** Are you to love God as yourself? You are to love God more than yourself.

#### **Verses 14-15**

When you are biting and devouring one another, you are not loving one another.

**Galatians 5:22:** The first of the fruits when you get saved, is starting to love other people. **Verse 23.**

There is no law against loving your neighbor too much. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor.

#### **Romans 13:10**

You are not going to hurt somebody if you love them.

## Lesson 63 Questions

1. The reason people are ashamed of the gospel of Christ is because:
  - a. They are loving the world
  - b. They are afraid
  - c. They are already saved
  - d. They are not saved
2. What will cause you to be ashamed?
  - a. Guilt
  - b. Pride
  - c. Bad Reputation
  - d. All of the above
3. "Constraineth" means to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Charge
  - b. Challenge
  - c. Chain up
  - d. Chill out
4. Perfect love is when you love all people.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. Our debt is to:
  - a. Hate each other
  - b. Love one another
  - c. Die
  - d. Pay back society
6. What is the key to paying debt?
  - a. Pay as little as possible
  - b. Pay more than you owe
  - c. Pay on time
  - d. None of the above
7. The church can act like a bank sometimes.

- a. True
  - b. False
8. How many times did Paul say to keep the Sabbath?
9. The most important thing we have is love.
- a. True
  - b. False
10. If you love someone, you will not \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- a. Owe
  - b. Hurt
  - c. Laugh at
  - d. All of the above

## Romans Lesson #64

### Romans 13:11-14

**Romans 13:8:** We have constant debt to love one another. He says, "If you love one another, you have fulfilled the law." The love business is pretty important to God. **Verse 10.**

The Sermon on the Mount matches Paul exactly. Love is the fulfilling of the law.

### Matthew 7:12

You know how you want others to treat you. You want them to smile at you, treat you well, talk to you, and compliment you.

### Verse 12

In the world, that is called the "Golden Rule." You do not keep the golden rule to go to heaven.

**Verse 12: "...for this is the law and the prophets."**

What is it mean to love your neighbor? Do unto others as you would want them to do unto you. He defines it.

**Romans 13** is the fulfilling of the law. "How do you I love others?" You treat them as you want to be treated.

**Romans 13:11: "And that, knowing the time..."** He does not mean you glanced at your watch. He is going to tell you that our salvation is nearer than when we

believed.

You are closer to heaven now than when you got saved. As we get older and go on, we are closer now than ever. Do not get discouraged.

***“...knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.”***

How can our salvation be nearer if we are already saved?

He is talking about the salvation of your body.

### **2 Corinthians 5:1-9; Romans 8:23**

You are a three-part being. Brother, when you got saved. The Lord saved your spirit and soul; but your body is not saved yet.

I have fillings in my teeth. I have a receding hair line. I have everything going wrong just like you do.

### **Romans 13:11**

He wants you to realize Christ's coming is closer and closer.

***“...knowing the time that now it is high time...”***

- He is saying that it is high time you start pulling the load around here. Start doing your part in the church.
- Most people who plan on getting saved die the same day.



“High time” means the end of somebody’s life:  
***“...it high time to awake out of sleep...”***

You may not be sleeping physically here, but you could be sleeping spiritually. What does it mean to sleep spiritually?

It is the sin of getting used to it: “The preaching does not affect me anymore.” “I am not getting anything out of the preaching.” Is the culprit in the pulpit or in the pew?

God said, ***“...it is high time to awake out of sleep...”***

You who are listening here could get numb to the preaching. You can get calloused to preaching. A callous comes from constant use. I can preach to you and preach to you. However, if you do not do something with what you hear and do not give out love, you will get hard. Your conscience can get hard as you start getting used to it. You can get numb, calloused: “Aw! Church again! Ho hum...” It is high time for you to awake out of sleep.

1. Being asleep means that you are immune to conviction. It just does not bother you anymore. You are secure, comfortable, warm.

***“...it is high time for you to awake out of sleep...”*** I am talking about spiritual sleep. Why? Because your salvation is nearer than when you believed.

**Hebrew 10:25: “...as you see the day approaching.”**

**1 Corinthians 15:33-34:** What is a way you could be asleep?

You are asleep at the switch. Asleep at the steering wheel. Asleep at the stick.

One way you could be sleeping is by not telling people of the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Salvation is a free gift for the asking. You could be sleeping at the switch. People are going to hell all around you.

You have the switch—the light of the world is Jesus. You are sleeping at the light switch.

**Verse 34:** He said, “People are going to hell! Shame on you for living a selfish life. Your neighbor is going to hell. You are in the comfort zone. You see people as trees—you do not see them as lost souls.” Every person you look at is a soul, and Christ died for their sins. You are a debtor to tell them of how their soul can be delivered from hell, and how they can go to heaven and be saved.

Lord, help me to smile at them. Lord, give me the courage to tell them about Jesus Christ. Give me wisdom and an opportunity to tell them how to be saved.

**Verse 34**

***“...knowing the time it is high time to awake out of sleep for our salvation is nearer than when we believed.”***

Do not be sleeping spiritually when Christ comes back.

**Ephesians 5:14:** If we awake up look what He does:

**Verses 15-16: “Redeeming the time...”** Buy up every opportunity. Make good use of time. Do not kill time. It is high time to awake out of sleep.

When you get to heaven, you will wish you had cared more, you will wish you had given out more love by passing out tracts. You will wish you had been more soul conscious. You will wish you had prayed more. You will wish you had not been so selfish. I wish I would have told more souls about the lord.

### **Verses 16-18, 14**

You are going to have to shake yourself and make yourself available and do it.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:6-8**

You are to be wide awake—that is not the sin of getting used to it. No longer do you think, *“Preaching does not affect me anymore. Here comes the same voice, ‘Blah, blah, blah...”*

You can come to church here, but not actually have been here. “Oh! I have heard that before. If I miss church nobody misses me.”

**Romans 13:11:** Christian, you know Jesus Christ is closer now than ever.

It is talking about the salvation of our body.

### **Romans 8:23**

1. Christians we need to awake up. **Verse 11**
2. Christians we need to clean up. **Verses 12-13**

**Romans 13:12: *"The night is far spent..."***

He does not mean a twelve-hour night and the sun is about to come up. ***"The night is far spent, the day is at hand..."***

That is talking about the coming of Jesus! He says, "I am the light of the world!" When He left, He said, "Ye are the light of the world!"

You and I are to shine as lights in the world!

**Romans 13:12**

***"...cast off the works of darkness..."*** Negative.  
Notice the positive: ***"...and let us put on the armour of light."***

**Ephesians 5:8-13**

**Verse 8**

You may be light, but are you shining as the Light. Your position in Christ is taken care of, but your condition may not be. Perhaps you are living in darkness.

You are to cast off the darkness and put on the armor of light.

**Verse 8:** Notice your condition: ***"...walk as children of the light."***

**Verse 11**

You can be children of the light and still go back and have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. You are to cast off the works of darkness. ***"Be not***

***deceived evil communications corrupt good manners.”***

You are to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

God has ***“delivered us from the power of darkness and has translated us in the kingdom of his dear son.”*** We are to shine as lights in the world.

**Philippians 2:15: *“...among whom ye shine as lights in the world.”***

When you got saved, the light shined in your soul and gave you some hope and joy. You were walking in darkness, and now ye shine as lights in the world.

**Matthew 5:16: *“Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven.”***

**Romans 13:12**

You are to consciously put on the armor of God every day. The armor of light. Light dispels darkness. When you are around the light, darkness runs. When you are in darkness, you have to be careful where you walk. When you turn on the light on, darkness leaves.

We are to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

When you cast off the darkness, that means you start cleaning up.

**Verse 13**

There is no place for a Christian to be rioting. A Christian ought not to be smashing anything, protesting, or throwing rocks at policemen. Rioting is unrestrained behavior.

### **Verse 13**

Why would a Christian get drunk? They are running.

**Verse 13:** So then, he names a bunch of sins.

What is chambering? A chamber is a room. A chamber is a bedroom. Chambering is shacking up. It is living together. It is immodest behavior. How do you know chambering is in the bedroom?

### **Exodus 8:3**

**Romans 13:13:** Wantonness is loose morals, letting yourself go to waste.

***“...not in strife...”*** No contention. ***“...not in envying...”***

**Romans 13:14:** He just gave you negatives, and now he is going to give you the positives. He says, ***“...put on the armour of light.”*** Walk honesty.

You are to put Him on practically.

**Verse 12: “Let us...” “Let us...” Verse 13: “Let us...”**

That means we need each other. As much as you do not think you need the church or me or the preaching, that is not how Paul looks at it.

- Let us put on the armor of light.
- Let us walk honestly.
- Let us cast off the works of darkness.

It is a lot easier to live for God when you see someone else living for God. When you sing loudly, someone else will sing loudly, too. When you see somebody else bringing someone to church, you yourself will bring someone to church. It is high time you awake out of sleep.

**Romans 13:14:** How do you put on the Lord Jesus?

**Philippians 2:5; Ephesians 6:10-18**

Maybe you need to cast off the works of darkness. J. Frank Norriss, when he got done preaching, asked, “Who will be first to come and take Christ?” Who will be first? When the first stepped out, others followed. Let us not wait for somebody else. Let us not always be a follower.

**Galatians 5:24:** *“And they that are Christ’s...”* That is personal possession. If you are Christ’s, you are not your own. You belong to Him.

You put on the Lord by *“Crucifying the flesh with affections and lusts.”*

If you want something or someone or to be somewhere else, you have a lust in your heart and have never put on the Lord Jesus Christ. He is not first in your life.

**Romans 13:14:** *“...make not provision for the flesh...”*

Imagine you are getting ready to go to the store or to school. “Well, what should I wear?” Wear Christ. You are to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. You are to be clothed in humility.

If you have to put on something on to impress someone, then you should not be there.

***“...make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.”***

Let us think about the flesh.

**Philippians 3:3:** Paul says put no confidence in the flesh. Remember, all flesh is as grass. In the flesh dwelleth no good thing. **John 6:63:** ***“...the flesh profiteth nothing...”***

Your flesh is capable of doing anything you did before you got saved—you could do worse.

**Matthew 12:43-45:** ***“When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.”***

The Bible says the last state of the man is worse than the beginning.

**Romans 13:14:** ***“...make not provision...”***

That means providing something. Do not give the



flesh an opportunity to sin. Why? Because it will. Do not allow the flesh to sin because it will. Do not let the flesh get into the place of temptation. If you will allow that, you will succumb to it.

***“Make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lust thereof.”*** Do not give the flesh an opportunity to sin! Your flesh is rotten and corrupt. Your flesh is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. You have to stay away from sin.

#### **Proverbs 4:14-15**

For example, there are guys who drink after work, then go home. When you get saved, and you work at the factory, the bars are close. Do not go home that way.

***Proverbs 4:14-15: “...make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lust thereof.”***

The best thing you can do for the flesh is embarrass the flesh. Greg Estep says, “When you want to sin, confess it. When you want to do it again, confess it.” To embarrass the flesh you can say, “Lord, it is me again. I hate myself. I do not know what is wrong with me. God, would you do something for me?”

You say, “I will do it a week later.” Embarrass the flesh more, and it will humble you.

Do not make provision for the flesh to fulfill the lust thereof. Do not feed the flesh.

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:22**

Is there anything wrong with drinking water out of

a bottle? Is there anything wrong with drinking water out of a bottle in a brown paper bag? It is just water in the bottle. You are to abstain from all appearance of evil. It does not look right.

I am not going to ride alone with a lady in a car somewhere. Why? Because I am a Pastor.

### **1 John 2:28-3:1-3**

- We are to wake up
- We are to clean up

Do not give the flesh an opportunity to sin because it will. Do not allow the flesh to get in the place of temptation. Do not feed the flesh. Make not provision for the flesh to fulfill the lust thereof. Abstain from all appearance of evil.

- **2 Peter 3:18:** We are to grow.

Why grow?

### **Romans 13:14**

- You are to wake up
- You are to clean up
- You are to grow up

## Lesson 64 Questions

1. Love is the fulfilling of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Prophecy
  - b. Law
  - c. Golden Rule
  - d. Faith
2. How can we love others?
  - a. Be still and know I am God
  - b. Bestow all your goods to feed the poor
  - c. Commit thy works unto the Lord
  - d. Do unto others as you would want them to do unto you
3. Being asleep refers to being immune from:
  - a. Commitment
  - b. Conviction
  - c. Calvinism
  - d. Callouses
4. Cast off the works of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Light
  - b. Darkness
  - c. Sin
  - d. Righteousness
5. Christians can riot as long as its for a good cause.
  - a. True
  - b. False
6. What are Christians to wear?
  - a. Armor of Light
  - b. Humility
  - c. Christ
  - d. All of the above
7. What is the best thing you can do for the flesh?
  - a. Educate it

- b. Embarrass it
  - c. Embrace it
  - d. Encourage it
8. Abstain from all \_\_\_\_\_ of evil.
- a. Appearance
  - b. Symbols
  - c. Enemies
  - d. Friends
9. A Christian ought to:
- a. Wake up
  - b. Clean up
  - c. Grow up
  - d. All of the above
10. Wantonness is:
- a. Immodest Behavior
  - b. Drunken Living
  - c. Loose Morals
  - d. Lustful Thinking

## Romans Lesson #65

### Romans 14:1-5

“Faith draws the poison from every grief and takes the sting from every loss.”

Any coward can praise Christ, but it takes a man of courage to follow Him. Great opportunities come to those who make the most of small ones.

**Romans 14** is practical living. Paul is dealing with relations between weak and strong Christians: how Christians can get along with one another. **Romans 14** has to be taken all together. In **Romans 14**, there are two categories: the category of clear sin (things that are right, things that are wrong) and then the non-essentials.

Savonarola said, “A Christian’s life consists in doing good and suffering evil. One thing is for certain: a Christian’s life should not be spent criticizing and destroying fellow believers.”

All Christians are the subject of this passage—both those who are weak and those who are strong—and their relationships one with another.

### 1 Peter 4:8-10

### Romans 14:1

This whole chapter is addressed to saved people and their relationships with others.

When you are disputing with someone, you are arguing with them. “Doubtful disputations” means non-essentials or getting stirred up on things that really do not matter. When we start putting importance on things that do not matter, that is where we are going to get in trouble.

**Romans 15:1:** *“We then that are strong...”* Who does not want people to think they are a strong Christian? If you think you are strong, you need to receive them that are weak. But do not to pull them off to “click” (little group) ideas to back your little system up or to get people on board with your own little agenda.

#### **Romans 15:1**

**Romans 14** is dealing with other Christians who think differently than you.

#### **Romans 14:1:** *“Him that is weak in the faith...”*

Weak—not having full conviction or confidence. They are weak in faith because they lack spiritual understanding. The weak Christian does not appreciate what his Christianity means. Here, the people of the day would not eat meat and would condemn the one that did.

**Job 4** says they have weak hands. **Isaiah 35** says they have feeble knees and a fearful heart. **Isaiah 40** would include someone who is young in the Lord. **Matthew 14:31** “Oh thou of little faith.” **Ezekiel 34** would be somebody that is sick spiritually, and those who have gotten away from the Lord. We are to bind up those who are broken. We are to strengthen them that are sick.

Our relationship to unsaved people is to be entirely

different than our relationship to brothers and sisters in Christ. God judges the unsaved, and we are not to be unequally yoked together with them.

### **1 Corinthians 5:13 & 2 Corinthians 6:14**

There are all kinds of reasons people are weak in the faith. They could be a brand-new Christian; they may have not read their Bible. You can be saved twenty-five years and still be weak in the faith. You can get somebody who comes to this church, but who has been in another church. They were the cream of the crop in their church, but when they came here, they said, “Wow! This is really different!” Maybe their church never went on the street. Maybe their church never had big days like we have here. Maybe their pastor would start something, and it would be hot for a while, but never accomplish anything. Perhaps their former preacher got involved in everything else but church. Then, the people come here and see that there is real movement.

You ask, “What could be the trouble?” They could be weak in the faith. You can be weak in the faith because of all kinds of situations.

***“Him that is weak...”*** This refers to being immature. Paul is directing the verse to the stronger believer. The Bible talks about Abraham being strong in the faith.

**Romans 14:1: “*Him that is weak in the faith receive ye...”***

- A weak brother is to be accepted confidently.

When someone joins this church, we sometimes pick them apart because they do not know dispensations or

do not know about the rapture. There are all kinds of Bible doctrines they do not know yet. Are we supposed to receive them as church members?

***“Him that is weak in the faith receive ye...”***

- A weak brother is to be accepted considerately.

You expect them to be a spiritual giant, but they are not going to be unless we accept them. So, you know what people do? When we get somebody new in church, three types of people immerge:

**1)** Those who are humble. Those who have knowledge and balance and who are filled with the Holy Ghost. They have no personal agenda. They are just glad they are saved and born again.

**2)** Then there is a second group: They will come and not shake anybody's hand. They will not say anything, and they just stay away.

**3)** Then there is a third group. They go up and shake people's hands and ask, "How are you? What is your name?" They meet people and start in on their agenda; what they believe so they can get them on their side.

Three categories:

1. Ones that receive them; those who have no personal agenda.
2. Then you have people who do not receive them at all, but they do not have anything against them.
3. Then you have those who receive them for doubtful disputations.



### **Romans 14:1**

When a new person comes to this church, you are to help them; you are to encourage them because they are weak in the faith. However, you are not to receive them to doubtful disputations, get clickish, and start ostracizing people, saying, “He is not in my group. They do not dress like my kids. They do not look like us.” By the way, start getting to know some of the adults. I have seen kids, who even after twenty years in the ministry, dressing correctly, talking right, reading their Bible, singing all the hymns, doing everything Mom and Dad tell them, who are wicked as hell deep down in their hearts. They have learned all the outward stuff, but they have learned from their parents that the preacher cannot be trusted or that everybody in the church is out to get them. They grow up and learn how to be spoiled brats who do not know how to work. They are cry-babies because they do not know how to lose. All of you had better learn how to lose and keep a stiff upper lip. On the other hand, those same kids have learned to be tricky. They have been taught to lie. By the way, you, young people had better not be eavesdropping on my conversations with another adult. That is rude and will not be tolerated.

These are man-made rules and regulations.

This chapter is to bring us together and gives us humility. This chapter will glue this church together and give us a love for each other.

### **Romans 14:1**

1. We do not need to argue about questionable things. If it is in this Bible, it is not questionable; it is not

doubtful. We are talking about things that are not in this Bible that might be wrong or might be right. This chapter is talking about differing with non-essentials. **Romans 14:1**

He gives two types of examples in this chapter. He uses food and days as examples. If you take food and days in the Old Testament, they took place simultaneously.

**Romans 14:2: “For one believeth that he may eat all things...”**

Do you believe you can eat snake? Yes, you can. Can you eat pork today? You can; it is sanctified by the Word of God and prayer.

**Romans 14:2**

He is talking about people who eat vegetables and pork. If you were a vegetarian, you would be weak in two things: **“...another, who is weak, eateth herbs.”**

What is that? Vegetarian. If you are a vegetarian, you would be weak in two things:

1. In **Acts 10**, a sheet was let down by four corners. God said, **“Slay, Peter. Kill and eat.” “Not so, Lord, for nothing common or unclean hath entered my mouth.” “Cleanse but call thou not uncommon.”**

**1 Timothy 4:1-2: “...speaking lies...”**

**Verse 3: “...commanding to abstain from meats...”**  
Abstinence from meats for sacramental purposes is a doctrine of devils.

## Verses 4-5

### Romans 14:1-2

1. You are weak spiritually (weak in the faith).
2. If you eat herbs, you are a vegetarian, and you will be weak physically. You get iron from meat.

### Verse 2

#### 1 Corinthians 10:25; Titus 1:15; Hebrews 13:9

If somebody is a vegetarian in here, it is okay; but here is the key: Do not push it on others. Why? **Romans 14:22:** The key is you may believe something weird, but keep your mouth shut and mind your own business.

**Romans 14:22:** Memorize that verse. *“Hast thou faith? Have it to thyself before God...”*

**Romans 14:2-3:** *“Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not...”*

### Verse 3

God gives two illustrations in that verse. God received both of them. God received both of these men with both of their ideas. That means, we are to receive them, too. People in this church may be different than each other, but we are to receive people who are weak in the faith yet without “clickish” notions.

#### 1 Corinthians 6:13

Your body is not for food, but food is for the body. Some people live to eat; some people eat to live.

**Romans 14:15: *“But if thy brother be grieved with thy meant, now walkest thou not charitably...”***

If I am with a Jewish person, I need to be charitable with them.

### **Verse 15**

### **Romans 15:1-3**

**Romans 14:4: *“Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth...”***

We are not to judge others in matters that do not pertain to the Bible.

**Romans 14:4: *“Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? To his master he standeth or falleth. Yea he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.”***

God has received him. He is God’s servant. He will have to answer to God for his actions and not to you. So, be careful how you judge another man’s servant. If it is not the same Book you are judged by, and if you have not already judged yourself by that Book, then you had better leave the judging of another brother to God.

### **Matthew 7:1-2; Proverbs 30:10; Romans 2:1; James 4:12**

God can make an individual stand. God can uphold the weak. We are not to judge in the non-essentials. **Verse 10: *“But why dost thou judge thy brother? Or why dost thou set a naught thy brother?”***

Almost saying he is not. It is like rejecting him. A

holier-than-thou attitude. He is not like us. There are those people in the church who do that.

### **Verse 10**

#### **Romans 14:23**

**Romans 14:4: *“Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth...”***

If you let that become a part of you, that will keep you out of trouble. I cannot make you spiritual. I can read you the Bible, but I cannot make you spiritual. You can be saved and not change at all.

**Romans 14:4:** God can make him stand.

Non-essentials, meaning I do this, you do not: Birth control = that is between the husband, wife, and God. Does the Bible take a stand? No. Nursing = if a woman nurses her baby, she is spiritual. ***“...to his own master he standeth and falleth.”*** Home birth or hospital birth? Neck ties? Beards and facial hair? Those our doubtful disputations. ***“Hast thou faith? have to thyself before God.”***

**Isaiah 41:10:** God will hold you up.

God is able to make the weak brother stand.

**Psalms 37:23-24:** The Lord is able to uphold him.

#### **Proverbs 24:16**

If you listen to raunchy, Laodicean music, that is your own personal business; but you start giving and

sharing CDs, cassettes, recordings, files, or links to people in this church, and I will stop it. You have moved into my turf, and I am going to put a stop to it.

**Ecclesiastes 7:16: *“Be not righteous over much...”***

How could you do that? Adding to what God said in this Book. You can get too smart for your own good.

**Ecclesiastes 8:9**

**Matthew 10:24-25: *“It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his Lord...”***

You do not need to make more rules and standards than the Lord has. There is enough in this Bible that we need to obey without having to add things that are not in here.

The Bible says, ***“Meddle not to strife that belongeth not to you...”***

**Romans 14:5: *“...fully persuaded...”*** is the opposite of doubting.

How do I know what is right and what is wrong? If you are not fully persuaded, then it is wrong. ***“...whatsoever is not of faith is sin.”***

**Romans 14:5:** Can you back up your convictions with Scripture?

**1 Peter 3:15**

**Colossians 4:6**

**Romans 14:5**

You need to be fully persuaded about what food to eat.

### **Galatians 4:10-11**

**Colossians 2:14-16:** Drinking there has to do with the Jewish dietary laws. **Verses 17, 20-21.** He is talking about man-made laws added to the Bible.

**Verses 22-23:** *“will worship...”* They are worshipping their own preferences. You set up all these rules and regulations and meet these qualifications of everything you like and prefer—then you think that because you meet these standards, you are spiritual. That is wrong.

### **Verse 23**

1. Every man is to be fully persuaded in his own mind.
2. We are not to judge one another.
3. Hast thou faith? Hast to thyself alone with God.

## Lesson 65 Questions

1. Only the courageous will praise God.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. Doubtful disputations are important, essential arguments.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. We are to receive those who are weak.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. How are we supposed to receive new church members?
  - a. Confidently
  - b. Considerately
  - c. Both a and b
  - d. Neither a nor b
5. What is an example of a doubtful disputation?
  - a. Salvation
  - b. Baptism
  - c. Food
  - d. Lord's Supper
6. We should strive to be vegetarians.
  - a. True
  - b. False
7. Which is not a doubtful disputation?
  - a. Food
  - b. Birth Control
  - c. Baptism
  - d. Facial Hair
8. It is a sin to eat pork.
  - a. True



- b. False
- 9. Everyone who accept new believers right away have another agenda.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 10. "Him that is weak in the faith, \_\_\_\_\_ ye..."
  - a. Repent
  - b. Ignore
  - c. Judge
  - d. Receive

## Romans Lesson #66

### Romans 14:6-7

#### Christian Checklist

This whole chapter is about getting along as Christians. **Verse 1:** There are people in the church who have not arrived. Who is that? Every one of us. ***“Not with doubtful disputations...”*** That means you are not to bring someone in the church in some sort of click. Quit arguing about the non-essentials.

**Romans 15:7:** I believe this is where this section ends. It does not end with **chapter 14**; it ends right here in **Romans 15:7**.

**Romans 14:1** says we are to receive each other and put up with each other. **Romans 15:1.** **Romans 14:1** starts: ***“Him that is weak in the faith...”*** If you think you are strong, your job is to receive the weak brother in the Lord.

#### Romans 15:1

This whole thing fits together. **Romans 14** does not take sides. It does not take the weak side, nor does it take the strong side. It takes God’s side on the unity of the church! Not at the expense of truth! **Romans 14** does not take sides.

**Romans 14:4:** ***“Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: For God is able to make him stand.”***

God has received him. He is God's servant. He will have to answer to God for his actions not to you. So, be careful how you judge another man's servant. If it is not in the same Book you are judged by, and if you have not already judged yourself by the Book, then you had better leave the judging of another brother to God.

**Proverbs 30:10; James 4:12**

**Romans 14:4: "...for God is able to make him stand."**

Remember, God is able to make, "***Him that is weak in the faith...to stand...***" God upholds the good man. His blood bought children with His hand.

**Isaiah 41:10; Psalm 37:23; Proverbs 24:16**

**Romans 14:5: "*One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.*"**

One Christian may want to pay tribute to the birth of Christ during the Christmas season. Another, knowing that Christ was not born in December, may not. The key: let neither of them despise the other.

Every man should be fully persuaded in his own mind that whatsoever it is that he is doing does not go against the teachings of the scriptures. If a man is not fully persuaded, then he has doubts.

**Romans 14:23**

Seven rules to determine whether something doubtful is sin:

1. One must be fully convinced that it is not wrong. **Romans 14:5.**
2. It must glorify God (**Verses 6-8**).
3. It must stand the test at the judgment seat of Christ. (**Verses 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ezekiel 22:14**).
4. It must not cause others to stumble (**Romans 14:13-21**).
5. It must be done by faith (**Romans 14:22-23**).
6. Is it something Christ would do (**Romans 15:1-7**)?
7. Your motive must be to please God first (**Romans 15:3**).

**Romans 14:6:** ***“He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it...”***

If a man does something “unto the Lord,” then it is really no one else’s business. Some people, such as the Seventh-day Adventists, teach that meeting in church on Sundays is the mark of the beast! We should have no problem with them meeting whenever they want to, but their judgment of other Christians is definitely against the scriptures. (**Colossians 2:16**)

#### **Galatians 4:10-11**

The Galatians were ritualistic observing certain days and placing undue emphasis on them. Paul rebukes them for it. Paul is discussing our liberty from ritualistic religious bondage. To observe or not observe religious days is a matter of personal Christian liberty and has nothing to do

with righteousness.

Remember, only heretics would teach that such observances have anything to do with salvation or with security of the believer.

### **Titus 3:9-11**

**Romans 14** does not take sides. **Romans 14** is so the weak treat the strong well, and the strong treat the weak well.

**Romans 14:4:** What are you doing judging another Christian?

**Romans 14:5:** That is not referring to Sunday. The Bible says, ***“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some do...”*** Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2: first day of the week.

### **Romans 14:5-6**

He is not saying you have a choice on Sunday. That is the day God resurrected His Son from the dead. God switched it from the seventh day of the week to the first day of the week. Saturday is the seventh day. That is a picture of the Old Testament. Six days shall a man work, and the seventh day man rests. This is the Old Testament pattern of work and rest. That is a picture of Old Testament salvation.

In the New Testament, it flip-flops. In the New Testament, it is rest (***Come all ye that labored and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.***) Rest and then work for the Lord. You get saved first, then you go to work for Jesus Christ.

So, it is not talking about your choice on Sunday.

It is Sunday now, but in the Old Testament, you had some people who were so used to Saturday, that they said, "I am going on Saturday." Paul said they were the weaker brothers for not recognizing the change.

### **Romans 14:5-6**

Now, I believe you should not work on Sunday. Why? Because the world that does not know; God knows it is wrong to work on Sunday.

### Four reasons Christians meet the first day of the week:

1. Jesus Christ arose from the dead on the first day (**John 20:1**).
2. Jesus Christ was present at the first Sunday evening service (**John 20:19**).
3. The Lord's Supper was observed, and a preaching service was held on the first day (**Acts 20:7**).
4. The offerings were to be collected on the first day of the week (**1 Corinthians 16:2**).

There are two problems areas: the doers of a doubtful disputations are clearly wrong in doing the thing in question:

1. Those who use their Christian liberty for a cloak to do as they please. **1 Peter 2 & 1 Thessalonians 2**
  - **1 Peter 2:13-16**
  - **1 Thessalonians 2:5 & 1 Corinthians 9:19**

These are backslidden Christians who will quote **Matthew 7:1** to you, not even understanding what it

means.

2. Those who use their liberty without regard to others (**1 Corinthians 8:7-13; Proverbs 18:19; Romans 14:21**).

**Romans 14:7:** Somebody is watching us.

**Romans 14:15:** Forfeiting your rights sometimes to help somebody along the way.

**Verses 20-21:** Two illustrations in this chapter: observance of days and food.

**Romans 14:5**

**Verse 22**

**Romans 14:5:** *“...Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.”*

You are required to be fully persuaded, meaning if you are 100% Biblically persuaded go ahead and do it.

**Romans 14:5-6:** Both were giving God thanks. Both were giving to the Lord.

**Verse 6** is written regarding days in the Old Testament. They had a whole mess of days in the Old Testament that they were to observe. Passover, unleavened bread, day of atonement, tabernacles, etc.

This chapter is talking about man-made restrictions. It is talking about Christians who disagree on rules.

**Romans 14:7**

He says that your life affects other people. If you are in a church, as I have been preaching, unfortunately there are people who want you to fall.

If that verse is not fair to you, you are selfish. You want to do what you want to do. He is saying what you want to eat is your business, and what days you observe is your business. Have you ever noticed that God blesses people who you disagree with, and God blesses people who disagree with you?

Let me show you people who watch your influence: you are being seen by other people.

**Jeremiah 3:6: *"The Lord said also unto me in the days of Josiah the King, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done?"***

**Verses 6-7: *"...he treacherous sister Judah saw it."***

Including Benjamin also: **verse 8.**

Look at the example one set: one had the good priest and the sacrifices. One had a bad priest, and they seemed to get away with it. "Hey, everybody else is doing it." So they did it, too; and God said they played the harlot.

There is a Christian Checklist:

1. **Ezekiel 44:23** = Discerning good and evil.
2. **Isaiah 61:8** = Judgment is the ability to choose what is right and wrong.
3. **Psalms 33:5** = God loves when you can decide what is right and what is wrong.
4. **Psalms 37:27-28**



## 5. Psalm 99:4.

Next, here are some questions to ask:

1. Is \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank) right?
2. Will \_\_\_\_\_ bring me near temptation?
3. Will I give place to the devil or make provision for the flesh? **Romans 13:14**
4. Is there anything in Scripture contrary to \_\_\_\_\_? **Isaiah 8:20**
5. Am I trusting God or doing \_\_\_\_\_ in my own strength? **Proverbs 3:5-6**
6. Is \_\_\_\_\_ doubtful? If there is any hesitation, why counsel? **Romans 14:23**
7. Will it cause someone to stumble? **Romans 14:21; 1 Corinthians 8:9.**
8. Would the Lord Jesus Christ do this? **1 Pet. 2:21; Romans 8:29**
9. Will it \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank) please God? **John 8:29**
10. Am I trying to impress others by my spirituality? **Acts 5:1-11.**
11. Do I want people to notice me? **Galatians 5:26.**
12. Will it edify (Educate? Does it teach? Do you learn something from it?), build up, or am I being selfish? Am I dead to self? (Am I doing this for money?) If you put your family first ahead of God, it is wrong. (**1 Corinthians 14:26**). Everything is supposed to be done to help somebody. **Philippians 2:3-4; Luke 9:23; Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 3:13-14.** Notice, *"...the merchandise of it* (wisdom and understanding) *is better than the merchandise of silver* (Bible knowledge is better than making

money), *and the gain thereof than fine gold.*"

**Proverbs 6:7-8; 8:10** (What is more important church or making money?) We have 168 hours in a week, and we have 4 hours of church. If you tithed your time to God it would be, then you would need to give 16.8 hours. **Proverbs 15:27:** "*He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house, he that hateth gifts shall live.*" **Proverbs 16:8.**

13. Am I denying the flesh? **Luke 14:26**
14. Am I putting Christ first? **Colossians 1:18**
15. Is it expedient (Or, in other words, is it profitable)?  
**1 Corinthians 10:23**
16. Will \_\_\_\_\_ bring glory to God? **1 Corinthians 10:31**
17. Am I deceiving myself or being deceived? Am I searching for an excuse to justify what I want to do?  
**1 Corinthians 3:18; Luke 16:15**
18. Do I have to hide \_\_\_\_\_ from anyone? That thing that is in your closet, that thing in your car—do I have to sneak around? **2 Corinthians 4:2**
19. Do I know better? **1 Corinthians 8:10**
20. Will \_\_\_\_\_ will this defile Gods body? **1 Corinthians 3:16-17**
21. Can I sincerely thank God for \_\_\_\_\_? If your wife is selling liquor at the bizarre, could you thank God for that job? No way! **Colossians 3:17**
22. Can I go all the way with it and give it all I got?
23. Have I prayed about it? **Psalms 106:15**
24. Am I breaking one commandment to keep another?  
"Well, I have to work to provide for my family, but I cannot be in church on Sunday." So, you are going to sin to provide for your family.

25. What does my Pastor think? What does the church people think? **Proverbs 11:14.** When somebody leaves the church, they find two people who agree with them, but the other twenty-five do not agree. That is why when someone leaves: they always try to take.
26. What do the church brethren think about it? **Proverbs 15:22.** Someone with them. **Proverbs 15:22; 24:6, Hebrews 13:17-18**
27. Do I want to be doing \_\_\_\_\_ when Christ returns? **1 John 2:28**
28. How will \_\_\_\_\_ appear at the judgment seat of Christ? **Romans 14:10**

## Lesson 66 Questions

1. God is able to make those weak in the face to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Stand
  - b. Fall
  - c. Believe
  - d. Be perfect
2. How many rules are there to determine whether something is doubtful is sin?
3. Who teaches that meeting at church on Sundays is a mark of the beast?
  - a. Mormons
  - b. Jehovah's Witness
  - c. Buddhists
  - d. Seventh Day Adventists
4. What is NOT a reason we meet on Sundays?
  - a. Jesus arose on a Sunday
  - b. God commanded it
  - c. The Lord's Supper was observed on Sunday
  - d. Jesus was present at the first Sunday evening service
5. What are the two examples of liberty illustrated in Romans 14-15?
  - a. Days and Religion
  - b. Food and Clothes
  - c. Food and Days
  - d. Clothes and Jewelry
6. Whose side does Romans 14 take?
  - a. Strong Christians'
  - b. Weak Christians'
  - c. God's
  - d. Paul's

7. It is sinful if you do not observe Jesus' birth at Christmas.
  - a. True
  - b. False
8. Every man should be fully persuaded that what he is doing is scriptural.
  - a. True
  - b. False
9. Who did Paul rebuke for observing certain days?
  - a. The Romans
  - b. The Ephesians
  - c. The Galatians
  - d. The Jews
10. It is wrong to work on Sundays.
  - a. True
  - b. False

## Romans Lesson #67

### Romans 14:7-13

There are two types of Christians in **Romans 14**, and that is the weak and the strong. Then, he gives two illustrations of food and days. If you read it honestly, the weak observe days and the strong observe special days. (**Galatians 4:10-11**). Paul was afraid of the Galatians because they had gone back to the weak and beggarly elements, observing days, months, and years (**Colossians 2:16**). Paul did not observe any special days. The weak in **Romans 14** believed in a special diet. ***“...another who is weak eateth herbs.”*** (**Verse 2**). In the past, observing days was scriptural.

### Romans 14:6-7

***“For none of us (weak or strong) liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.”***

We Christians need each other. We are all members of the same body.

### Romans 12:5

You might think, “Well, my sin does not affect anybody else.” Your sins do affect other people.

Achan, when he took that wedge of gold and the Babylonish garment, never imagined that Israel would lose a battle, that thirty-six men would lose their lives, or that women would be weeping at the graves of their husbands all because of Achan’s sin.

You say, "I am not hurting anybody but myself."

### **Romans 14:7**

King David. The Bible says, ***"...at the time when kings go forth to battle..."*** (2 Samuel 11:1) The Bible says David tarried still at Jerusalem. He was not in his place of responsibility. He should have been out fighting the battles of the Lord, but there he was up upon the house watching Bathsheba washing herself. He sent his servants and said, "Bring her to me." Then he went in unto her. He probably at that time said, "That is over!"

No, it was not. ***"Be sure your sins will find you out."*** She comes back and says she is pregnant. Then he sent word to bring Uriah from the field. He tells him, "Go to your house, take a bath, and eat some food." You see, David is acting like he is really pleased with Uriah. So the story goes on, and David says put him in the hottest part of the battle letting them kill Uriah at the wall.

What happened after that? God killed four of David's sons.

Remember **Esther 1:16** where Mordecai would not bow to Haaman? It so enraged Haaman that he wanted all the Jews dead.

### **Romans 14:7**

***"Jeroboam the son of Nebat who caused Israel to sin."*** They did not remove the idols that king Jeroboam put up. Many people were affected by that man's sin.

When you say, "I am not hurting anybody but

myself," you are deceiving yourself.

### **Romans 14:7**

That means somebody is watching you. Your life affects other people.

### **Hebrews 12:15**

One person can harbor a grudge and a root of bitterness and not deal or take care of it with the Lord. You have to become more resilient and bounce back. You have to not be so thin-skinned, taking things in, and harboring them against others.

People like nursing grudges. It all has to do with strife and contention.

***Verse 7: "...for no man liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself."***

### **Romans 14:7-8**

***"For whether we live..."*** Listen, if you are alive, you are supposed to be living for the Lord. Your purpose of being alive is to worship and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.

***"For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."***

We are here to be disposed of anytime he chooses.

### ***Verse 8: "...we are the Lord's."***

That "Lord's" there is a personal possessive. He owns us: we are the Lord's. We are not our own. We have



no rights. We are the Lord's personal property.

### **Philippians 1:20-21**

Where was Paul when he pens these verses? He is in prison. **Verse 13.**

**Verse 20: “Christ shall be made magnified...”** That means when you walk around, you either make Christianity small to them or large to them. If you minimize Christianity. And they say, “If that is what a Christian does, I do not need it!” People that see a Christian that way, living in apathy, they say I do not need it.

If Jesus Christ is small in your life, you have minimized Him.

**Verse 20: “...so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life or by death.” Verse 21: “For me to live is Christ and to die is gain.”**

Paul determined he was the Lord's, and everything he did was the Lord's. He believed that God was responsible for everything that happened in his life.

### **Verse 12**

**Romans 14:9:** Three times in **verse 8** we see the LORD.

**“For to this end...”** He means for this purpose. **“For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived...”**

Revive means to re-live. Revive us again—fill each heart with thy love. That means make them alive again who were dead and trespasses and sins. We have been in

darkness, and it is cold.

**Romans 14:9:** The word “Lord” shows up again.

Christ has the right to be Lord over us. To be Lord means to be your boss and your master. If He is Lord both of the dead and the living. That means the body is dead, but the spirit and soul are alive. ***“To be absent from the body is to present to the Lord.”***

God is not the God of the dead but the living.

### **Verse 9**

It is not enough to be Jesus. He is Christ Jesus the Lord. He is the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus Christ = that is the whole trinity.

The Lord = the Father.

Christ means anointed—the Holy Ghost. Jesus is the man. Is He your Lord? A lot of you are saved, and He is your Savior. But is He your Lord? Is he controlling your life? Is he the Boss and Master of your life?

### **Luke 6:46**

If you are not obedient unto Him, He is not your Lord. He might be your Savior.

Remember when Peter saw a sheet let down from the four corners? He said, ***“Slay Peter, kill, and eat.”*** **“Not so Lord...”**

Contradiction, Peter. Not only did you say, “No! No! Lord, do not fit together.”

### **Romans 14:9**

We know He is supposed to be our Lord in Heaven, but He wants to be Lord of this little space called time.

Maybe you need to say, "Lord, I want you to be my Lord. I am willing to give this up, and I am willing to start doing this. I want you to be the true Lord of my life." ***"That he might Lord both of the dead and the living."***

### **Romans 14:10: "But why judgest thy brother?"**

If Vanya and I are brothers, is Christ our Lord? He is establishing the point that our Lord is the Lord Jesus Christ.

If Christ is really the Lord of your life. ***"...why dost thou set at nought thy brother?"***

Nought means nothing.

Let us look at the Bible definition of the word "nought." What does it mean to set your brother at nought? In Isaiah, he said it himself. He said, ***"Come not near to me for I am holier than thou."***

Who would be saying, "I am holier than thou"? God says, "That stinks in my nose."

When you set at nought your brother, that means you have a holier than thou attitude.

### **Acts 4:11**

When those builders set that building at nought, that means they injected Jesus Christ as their Messiah. To set Christ at nought, to take that stone at nought, means to

reject that stone for use in the building.

**Romans 14:10:** Set at nought is to stand by thyself come not near to me because I am holier than thou.

Have you ever noticed when some Christians commit certain sins, people would say, "Then he is not saved."

**Isaiah 65:4-5**

**Romans 14:10**

Setting your brother at nought is setting him in a place by himself or saying he is unsaved. You are not to set another Christian at nought.

**Romans 14:1** It is not talking about not putting a Christian on church discipline. The opposite of receiving is setting him at nought. He did not say he that is sinful in the faith receive thee. He said He that is weak in the faith.

**Romans 15:7**

When Christ received me, He received me with all my sin.

**Romans 14:10**

Mark three words: in **Verse 10** circle the word, Christ. **Verse 11** circle the word God. **Verse 12** circle: God. It is the last word in each verse.

That proves Jesus Christ is God. In the J.W. Bible **verse 10** says the Judgment Seat of God (they take Christ out and put God there). The last word in **verse 11** in the J.W.

Bible is God, and the last word in **verse 12** is God. They have God three times. It took Christ out because it showed Christ is God.

The J.W.'s want to do away with the deity of Christ.

**Romans 14:10: “...for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.”**

That is the only thing I am not looking forward to about prophecy. People say, “Preach about prophecy, tell us about the rapture and the second coming, tell us about the Millennial Kingdom.” How about the prophecy of the Judgement seat of Christ?

He says that we have to be careful judging each other.

### **1 Corinthians 2:15**

If I am doing right, it does not matter what other people think. If you are spiritual, you can judge all things. If somebody is committing a particular sin and you have to deal with that sin.

### **Verse 16; 1 Corinthians 5:13**

You have to judge some things in people's lives sometimes.

### **1 Corinthians 6:1**

Did you know the church is a legal court of law? If two Christians are not getting along, we are not to take them to court. We are to settle it in the church. We are to handle it here.

Whatever is judged, decided upon, and acted on. **1 Corinthians 6:1-2:** If you are saved, you will help the Lord judge at the great white throne.

### **Verses 2-3**

Do you realize that God is going to show you every unclean spirit that whispered in your ear?

**Verse 3:** We are to draw conclusions and judgments.

**Verse 4:** He asks, “Are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?”

**Verse 5:** There is an example where you have to judge somethings. In **chapter 5** he says, “Put away from among you that wicked person.”

So why does he say in **Romans 14** that we are not judge others? We are talking in matters of meat and days.

***“Him that is weak in the faith receive ye but not to doubt disputations.”*** That is the non-essentials. He is not talking about adultery. The guy in **1 Corinthians 5** was committing adultery. That is not a doubtful disputation.

### **1 Corinthians 6:6**

**Matthew 7:** The Bible says, ***“...prove all things hold fast to that which is good.”***

Everybody in the Corinthians church was weak. They were babes; there was envying and carnality. Paul asked, “Are you willing to judge?” You are going to judge the world. They were unwilling to judge. Everybody in the Corinthian church was saying, “Judge not that you be not

judged.”

That is the kind of church it was. It was a tongue-speaking church that said: “Judge not, judge not...”

**Matthew 7:1-2: “For...”** (Explanation)

If you know by judging someone else that you know that it is wrong, you have to be careful. Make sure, though, that if you are judging someone else that you are not committing the same sin.

**Verse 3: “*And beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye...*”**

Quit looking at your brother. Look at your own self.

**Verse 4**

**Verse 5** describes what he is talking about in **verse 1**. Notice, “***Thou hypocrite, first*** (circle the word) ***cast out the beam that is in thy own eye; and then...*** (circle that word).”

It is okay to judge another brother just as long as you do not have a fence post in your eye. You are to help him take the beam out, not push it in further.

**Romans 14:10: There are five crowns a believer can gain:**

1. Crown of Righteousness – for loving His coming.
2. Crown of rejoicing – for leading others to Jesus Christ.
3. Crown of Glory – for feeding the sheep. **1 Peter 5**
4. Crown of Life – for enduring temptation.

5. Incorruptible Crown – for putting your body under subjection.

### **Romans 14:11**

One day, everyone here who is saved, will get on their knees and bow before God at the judgment seat of Christ.

### **Isaiah 45:21-23**

The doctrine of the “Judgement seat of Christ,” which is for Christians only, should lead Christians to examine themselves, confess their sins, and submit their lives to the Lord now. In light of the fact that if they do not do that now, they will confess to God and give an account to Him then.

### **1 Corinthians 11:31**

The question is why are you not willing to do it now? Why wait? Stop the sit-down theology. You are to kneel and pray.

You will give an account of everything you said, and everything you thought. You will give an account of everything that you were not willing to repent of here and wash in the blood of Christ. Everything you were not willing to confess, you will give an account at the judgment seat of Christ. Every hidden work of dishonesty will be made manifest at the judgment seat of Christ.

### **Verse 12**

I have to give an account of my calling—all that I have done as a Pastor. Did I faithfully deliver the Word of



God? Did I carry out my duty of warning, telling you the truth, and being honest with myself and my conscience? Will you give an account for the congregation? Yes, I will give an account of my responsibility to my call. Listen, your sins are your fault.

**Verses 12-13:** Somebody may trip over your example.

**Luke 17:1**

There is going to be sin. There are going to be temptations. But, "Woe unto him, through whom they come!"

We are to watch our step. You might trip over somebody's else's example. If you stumble at Christ, that is one thing; but if somebody stumbles on your life, that is different thing.

## Lesson 67 Questions

1. As long as your sins are hidden, they do not affect anyone else.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. Who caused Israel to lose thirty-six men because of hidden sin?
  - a. Achan
  - b. David
  - c. Joshua
  - d. Samson
3. How many of David's sons died because of David's sin?
  - a. One
  - b. Two
  - c. Four
  - d. All of them
4. God is only Lord of the living.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. Setting at nought your brother means:
  - a. Acting holier-than-thou
  - b. Acting unsaved
  - c. Acting foolishly
  - d. Acting like you do not know your brother
6. Setting a brother at nought is church discipling him.
  - a. True
  - b. False
7. Why does the JW Bible take out Christ in verses 10-12?
  - a. It convicts them of sin
  - b. It proves Christ is God
  - c. They do not believe in Jesus

- d. None of the above
- 8. What is one unpleasant part of future prophecy?
  - a. Rapture
  - b. Judgment Seat
  - c. Second Coming
  - d. Millennial Reign
- 9. The church can be a legal court of law.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 10. How many types of crowns can a believer gain?

## Romans Lesson #68

### Romans 14:13-15

**Romans 14:1:** *"Him that is weak in the faith..."* (a new believer or a new believer that has never grown). We are to receive them, but we are not to bring in doubtful disputations. If somebody is wicked in the faith, backslidden on God, or living a filthy dirty life, they are to be told. However, this is a person weak in the faith that simply does not know. **Romans 14:1:** *"...but not with doubtful disputations."* Do not try to get them into your little click. Are you doing it for the Lord or doing it for yourself?

Why do you greet people? Why do you try to love people? Is it for you or for Jesus Christ's sake?

**Romans 14:13:** *"Let us (the weak and the strong)..."*

**Verse 13:** *"A stumbling block..."* is something you left out. If you are at a job sight you need to clean up after you are done. Notice, *"You are to judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."*

**Romans 9:32-33:** What do you do when someone is a stumbling block? **Romans 16:17**

You are to mark them who cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

A divider is someone who does not agree with protocol and wants to establish their own protocol. We are

talking about people who are not what they appear to be. They are not what they pretend or present themselves to be.

A Mormon is clean-shaven and has a good haircut. He wears a white shirt, a white tie, and a pair of black pants. That is the way a child of God is supposed to look. He looks like a sheep in the eyes of people. He is identified by somewhat of a right standard, but his doctrine is wrong. He is more dangerous because he looks right. Wolves work hard to look like sheep.

### **Romans 16:17**

An offense is when someone causes someone else to stumble—to put someone in a bad light. “Offense” also means to create a scandal or attack someone. Perhaps you are trying to defame someone or to blacken someone else’s character. Here is how it works in churches: “Well, the services are long. I would not invite anybody to the church because the service is too long. The preacher is too loud. The preacher is too fat, and the song service is too loud for my ears. All we hear are messages about doctrine. We do not hear messages about our life.” If you are complaining about your church or your preacher or another brother, you are causing division. A preacher was just recently talking with me about his church. The young people do not like the music; they want their own music, and that is why they do not come. He asked me, “What do I do?” I said, “Show them the door.”

**Leviticus 19** says, ***“Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear***

***thy God: I am the Lord.*** Isaiah 57:14: ***“...take up the stumbling block out of the way of my people.”*** Why would someone put a stumblingblock in another brother’s way?  
**Ezekiel 14 & Matthew 16**

**Ezekiel 14:3:** Idols in the heart.

**Matthew 16:23:** ***“...thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.”***

“To savor” means you like the taste of something. You like the taste of the world, and you like the smell of the world.

**Mathew 18:7**

Somebody might trip over your example. You say, “I do not see anything wrong with it.” But you may cause somebody else to stumble.

The issue is not is somebody affected by it. The issue is, if I do this, will it affect my brother? How will it affect a new Christian in the church? How will it affect these kids in the church? You can fool us, but you cannot fool God.

**1 Samuel 16:7**

People say, “Well, it does not matter what is on the outside because God is interested in your heart.” This verse does not say that God is not concerned with the outward appearance. It says that He sees deeper than that. It does not say God is blind to what I look like on the outside. It says that He can see what is in my heart as well as what is displayed on the outside.

The only thing I know about you is what I see, but

God knows things about you that I cannot see. In other words, you can fool man by the outside, but you cannot fool God. He sees down inside and knows what is really there.

## **2 Corinthians 3:2**

I am an epistle, and you are an epistle. What people are reading is what is visible. You cannot read what is invisible. If I am an epistle, they are going to read something. They are going to have to see it on the outside. They see your conduct, and they see your apparel. They see your fellowship. People see your identity and who you yoke up with.

If you are visiting the Pentecostal or Charismatic churches and visiting our church at the same time, then you are double-minded man. The Bible says, ***“A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.”***

Somebody said, “A picture is worth a thousand words.” “Well, I am a sheep!” Why do you not look like one?

## **Romans 14:13-14**

If you are looking for a verse to justify what you want to do, you can park on **verse 14** and twist the Scriptures to your own destruction. If you handle the Word of God deceitfully.

***Verse 14: “I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself...”***

What is the context of **verse 14**? He is talking about foods **Verses 2-3, 6. Verse 15: Food. Verse 17: Food. Verse 20: Food. Verses 21, 23: Food.**

Do you think a Christian can smoke and go to heaven? Yeah! And a lot sooner, too!

**Romans 14:14; verse 20: “...All things are indeed is pure...”**

He is talking in the context about food.

**Titus 1:15: “Unto the pure...”** If you are saved, you are pure in God’s sight—in your standing. You are sinless in God’s sight. Notice, **“Unto the pure, all things are pure...”** You might mess up, but you are going to heaven. **“...but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure...”** If you are lost, though, it does not matter what you do because you are going to hell. I do not care even if you join fifty churches or quit eating meat and become a vegetarian. I do not care if you observe days or your observing days. **“Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure...”** It has nothing to do with works. Paul says, **“...even their mind and conscience is defiled.”**

**Verse 12: “slow bellies.”** They are lazy. **Verse 14: “commandments of men.”**

Come back to **Romans 14:14: “I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself...”**

How about gangrene? Gangrene is unclean, and it is contagious. It moves. There are all kinds of diseases which are unclean. It cannot be talking about anything. He is talking about the food in the context.

**“I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that**



***there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.***

If you are going to make you a rule and a regulation, it is to you! That means you believe that it is right for everybody to believe it. This chapter is talking about the doubtful disputations. Let me give you something controversial about doubtful disputations. People have different convictions.

How many have heard the expression: “Be moderate in all things”? It is not in the Bible. That means be moderate in drinking. Be moderate in stepping out on your wife.

That is the closest thing to it, but it has nothing to do with it.

**1 Corinthians 9:25: “And every man that striveth for the mastery...”** He is trying to get the prize. Notice, ***“...temperate in all things...”*** Verses 25-26.

Temperate = you do not drink at all. Temperate means obstinate, and that you will give it up. To be moderate is a false translation, that is a false doctrine

**Romans 14:14-15; 15:1-2**

Basic requirements concerning doubtful things:

1. Judge Not (**Romans 14:13**)
2. Offend Not (**Romans 14:14, 21; 1 Corinthians 8:13**)
3. Destroy Not (**Romans 14:15**)

**Verse 16: “Let not your good be evil spoken of...”**

We are commanded to ***“abstain from all appearances of evil.”*** (1 Thessalonians 5:22). The good, in the context, refers to those things of doubtful disputations which are not condemned in the Scripture, and which are within the bounds of personal Christian convictions and liberty (Romans 9:1)

We should not exercise our Christian liberty before those who would disagree with us, lest they should condemn us, and we should offend them. When they judge us in those doubtful things, then they have judged us wrongly, nevertheless we should avoid such things out of charity for our weaker brothers.

If we were eating at a restaurant with a Jewish person who ate only kosher food, it would not be charitable for us to order pork chops!

You are not to mess him up.

The companion passage to **Romans 14** is **1 Corinthians 8**.

**1 Corinthians 8:1:** There is some key words here: knowledge...charity.

**1 Corinthians 8:1:** ***“Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge...”*** Everybody has some kind of knowledge. ***“...Knowledge puffeth up but charity edifieth.”***

You might say, “I know my rights unto the pure all things are pure, so all things are lawful unto me.” You can pull all those verses out of context to justify what you are doing. Listen, if you are messing up other people, you are

not walking charitably.

Knowledge must be balanced by love. Knowledge and love must work together.

### **1 Corinthians 8:2**

If you think you have arrived, you are so far off. If you really know something, you will not brag about it.

**1 Corinthians 8:3:** If you really love God, everybody is going to know that you love God.

If people are always telling everybody they love the Lord, they probably do not love the Lord. People will know you love God with you having to tell them.

Jesus said that He loved the Father only once.

### **John 14:31**

**1 Corinthians 8:3** *“...if any man love God the same is known of him...”*

**1 Corinthians 8:4:** What is connected with idols all through the Bible? Unclean spirits. Why do unclean spirits hover around idols? People pay homage to idols and put flowers at idols.

### **1 Corinthians 8:4**

**Verse 5:** Notice what is connected with idols, gods. Unclean spirits hang around idols.

### **Verses 6-8**

*“But meat commendeth* (recommended) *us not*

***unto God: for neither, if we eat, are we better; neither, if we eat not, we are worse.***

If you choose not eat meat and you're a vegetarian it is o.k. do not push it on anybody else in this room.

***"Happy is he that condemneth not which he alloweth."***

**Verse 8** has nothing to do with spirituality.

**Verse 9**

That is the second time you have the word weak. Mark the word "conscience" and the word "weak." **Verse 9:** you say, "I am not hurting anybody." You could be a stumbling block to them that are weak.

**Verse 10:** "Emboldened" means "strengthened, to increase."

His conscience is weak; he becomes emboldened. In other words, becomes strengthened or encouraged to sin.

So, you get little kids in church they know what you are up to. Then, new believers find out. They say, "So and so does it in the church." Hey, listen just because so and so does it in the church does not mean it is okay.

**Verse 11**

"Perish" here does not have anything to do with someone going to hell, because it says "brother." The Bible says, ***"Destroy not him for meat for which Christ died."*** How would you destroy a brother they get backslidden and go back into the world?

### **Verses 11-12: “*But when you sin...*”**

You might be doing something that is Scripturally right in your mind that causes somebody weak to stumble, or a Christian strengthened or emboldening to do something wrong you have sinned.

You sinned in something you thought was legitimately Scriptural, but you would not give it up for somebody else. You are a stumbling block to them even though you did it without it bothering you a bit. Somebody else saw it, and your testimony was poor, making you a stumbling block.

You committed a sin, and you did not think you were sinning.

### **Verse 12**

The sin was not only horizontal, but the sin was vertical.

### **Verses 12-13**

That means. Do you know what word you could put in the place of the word offend?

**James 2:10:** To offend in all is to sin in one point. It does not say, “I offended him.” It says, “I caused him to sin.”

**Romans 14:15:** “*But if thy brother be grieved...*” He is bummed out because you are doing that.

### **Verse 15**

It does matter what other people think. Let me show

you something about man-made rules and where we are to keep our eyes.

**Mark 7:1-2: “...they found fault.”**

Christ disciples were fishermen. Do you know what fishermen have on their hands?

**Verses 2-3:** They were man-made rules.

**Verses 4-6**

You know what the trouble was? Those Pharisees had clean fingernails and hands. However, the trouble was that their hearts were dirty because of the iniquity and hypocrisy. Without, you are clean; but within, you are full of hypocrisy. Notice, ***“They honour me with their lips but their heart is far from me (dirty).”*** Verse 7: ***“Howbeit in vain do they worship me...”***

They go to church and worship, but it is all in vain because they have a dirty heart.

**Verse 7**

They do not understand the Book, so they go to established, man-made religion. In other words, if you do these outwardly.

**Verses 7-8: “For laying aside the commandments of God...”**

**Verses 8-9, 13: “Hast thou faith haveth to thyself before God...”**

**John 21:15-17**

***“Peter was grieved...”*** You think he would have been happy.

**Verse 18:** ***“Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, (you put on your own clothes) when thou stretch forth thy hands...”*** That means, “Peter, you will die by crucifixion.” Jesus is prophesying how Peter is going to die. ***“When thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee...”*** He is not going to be putting on a coat he is going to be putting on a cross, you are going to be clothed by a cross. ***“And another shall gird thee and carry thee whither you wouldest not.”***

How do you know what it is talking about?

#### **Verse 19**

Jesus has already been to the cross crucified, risen, and Jesus Christ is speaking to Peter in his glorified resurrected body.

**Verses 19-20:** ***“Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following...”***

He said, “Follow me, Peter.”

#### **Verse 20:** ***“Then Peter, Turning about...”***

He blew it in two seconds. The Lord said, “Follow me!” “Well, what about Efim? What about Vanya? What about Olga?” Is that following?

**Verse 20-21:** ***“Peter seeing him...”*** Every one of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

**Verse 22:** *“Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me.”*

Now, that does not mean John lived to be two thousand years old. That means John got to see the Second Coming and write it in the Book of Revelation.

### **Verse 22**

Jesus said, “Peter, do not worry about John; it is a different ministry. John is going to be put on the Isle of Patmos. Peter, you will write two books of the Bible. John will write five books of the Bible.”

### **Verse 23**

He asks, “What is that to thee what Vanya or John does?”



## Lesson 68 Questions

1. What do you do when someone is a stumbling block?
  - a. Receive them
  - b. Encourage them
  - c. Mark them
  - d. All of the above
2. Mormons are dangerous because:
  - a. They have good doctrine
  - b. They do not dress appropriately
  - c. They act rudely
  - d. They look like a Christian should
3. Before you do something, you should consider if it will make your brother stumble or not.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. God is blind to our outside.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. We ought to be \_\_\_\_\_ in all things.
  - a. Moderate
  - b. Temperate
6. What is NOT a basic requirement concerning doubtful things?
  - a. Judge Not
  - b. Offend Not
  - c. Help Not
  - d. Destroy Not
7. Knowledge must be balanced by:
  - a. Patience
  - b. Ignorance
  - c. Love

- d. Courage
- 8. Romans 14:11 is speaking about going to hell.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 9. The Pharisees were clean:
  - a. On the Inside
  - b. On the Outside
- 10. Peter would die by being:
  - a. Burned
  - b. Hanged
  - c. Stabbed
  - d. Crucified

## Romans Lesson #69

**Romans 14:16-23**

**Romans 14:1**

You are not to shun somebody weak in the faith. When you receive them, it is not for your own purposes to feather your own nest or to make a notch in your gun. But it is for the glory of God. He says we need to be careful how we live.

**Verse 15**

If your brother is grieved with your eating habits, if it bothers him, he says, "Out of the motive of love, you ought to give up what you would do so you do not offend your brother."

**Romans 14:16**

Do not tie your shoes in your neighbor's watermelon patch. I am to abstain from all appearance of evil. Never argue with a drunk. When people speak evil of you, falsely accuse or slander: ***"Let not then your good be evil spoken of."***

**Romans 9:1: *"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing witness in the Holy Ghost."***

We should not exercise our Christian liberty before those who would disagree with us lest they should condemn us, and we should offend them. When they judge us in those doubtful things, then they have judged us wrongly. Nevertheless, we should avoid such things out of charity for our weaker brothers. If we were eating at a

restaurant with a Jewish person who ate only kosher food, it would not be charitable for us to order porch chops.

### **Verse 17**

Because the kingdom of God is spiritual and not material, it must be entered by the new birth (**John 3:3, 1 Corinthians 15:50; Luke 17:20-21**).

The Spiritual priority must not be the externals but the eternal. Men will still be offended by the gospel (**Galatians 5:11**). But they should not be offended by our lives. We are to have a good report of them that are without. **1 Timothy 3:7**.

Christians should be the most respected people in the community. They should do everything to the glory of God, not out of pride.

**Verses 18-19: “Let us follow after the things that make for peace...”** Our job as Christians is to get along and not stir up strife. Notice, **“Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace...”** We are to follow after the things that make for peace. Let’s stay together let not us get divisive. **Hebrews 10:24**.

### **Verse 19**

This verse points out two important areas in which we are responsible for other Christians: Peace (**Hebrews 12:14-15; Phil. 2:3-5; Gal. 5:26**) and edification (**1 Corinthians 14:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11; 1 Corinthians 10:23; Romans. 15:2**).

Everything we do should not be for the purpose of

breaking down. Instead, our purpose ought to be the purpose of building up. Sometimes, you have to plow the field and turn the field over. Pull, uproot, and get some of the weeds out. You say, “That is negative.”

**Verse 19:** Edify—that is where you get the word education. We are to teach each other.

The idea is that both the strong and weak need to grow. The strong need to grow in love, and the weak need to grow in knowledge. Listen, as long as a brother is weak in the faith, you must lovingly deal with him in his immaturity. It is wrong for a Christian to remain immature, having a weak conscience. How do you know they are touchy?

They are thin-skinned, sensitive, and you have to handle them with kid gloves (i.e., you have to be careful what you say to them).

It is natural for a child to stumble learning to walk, but if an adult constantly stumbles, we know something is wrong.

There are adult Christians who are offended easily, with weak consciences and thin skin. It is a sin to remain weak. The commandment for a weak Christian is to grow in knowledge. The commandment for the strong Christians is to love the weak.

### **Verse 19**

There was an old preacher named Savonarola, and here is what he said: “A Christian’s life consists in doing good and suffering evil.”

A Christians life should not be spent in criticizing and destroying fellow believers.

**Verse 19:** Instead of getting mad and disagreeable, we need to use Scripture.

What is the greatest tool to edify one another? It is the Bible. Do not let the weak remain weak.

### **Hebrews 3:14**

You need preaching.

### **Ephesians 4:2-3**

It does not say, “Endeavoring to keep the spirit of unity.” That is ecumenical. The spirit of unity is satanic. We are to keep the unity of the spirit.

The unity of the spirit is not going to do anything contrary to this Bible. If you say “the spirit of unity” it means we are to get along at any cost. That means we will break down barriers and try. The unity of spirit means we are not going to compromise this Book. The unity of the spirit is produced by the Holy Ghost.

### **Verse 3**

**Romans 14:19-20:** *“For meat destroy not the work of God...”* **Verse 7:** Meat is a small thing.

**Verse 20:** A strong Christian eats with offense when he does anything that offends a weaker brother who stumbles and follows the example of a stronger Christian even though he believes the thing to be sin (**1 Corinthians 8:1, 9-12**. **Verse 11:** *“And through thy knowledge shall the*

***weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?”)***

To perish means to be injured, tormented, puffed up, or have a bloated ego. “I know it is not sin, and I will eat it if I want to!” That kind of attitude is usually accompanied with the thought, “What right does he have to condemn me? I will show him!”

***“For meat destroy not the work of God.”*** That is called gnat-straining. That is majoring on the minors and minoring on the majors. Christians there are things that are more essential.

You need to realize what the majors are. Do not strain at a gnat.

### **Matthew 23:23**

There are people obsess over who pays their tithes. “Well, I did that. At least I tithe!” No, you bought God off.

**Verse 23:** They were tithing the spices. People say all the time: The Bible is equal, there is no sin greater than another sin. I do not believe that!

There are weightier matters of the law. What are the weightier matters? They are the necessary things not just differences in opinion.

We believe the King James Bible. We believe God is the Creator of everything we can see. We believe in the virgin birth and the deity of Christ. We believe in the bodily resurrection, and we believe Jesus is coming again. Those are the weightier matters of the law.

### **Verse 24**

They were more concerned with a gnat being in their soup.

**Verse 25:** Pharisee means separated. **Verses 25-26:** *“...cleanse first...”* **Verses 26-28**

In Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John do you see Christ criticizing everybody? No. He knew everything about everybody around Him but was not critical.

**Romans 14:20:** *“...All things are indeed are pure...”*

What is the context? Food.

**Verse 20:** You need to give it up if it hurts someone else.

**Verse 21**

The modern-day continuation of the thoughts here might be: “What about attending movie theaters, or smoking, not to dress immodestly?” This verse says, *“...nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.”*

There are areas of dress and hair length which are not doubtful disputations, but even so, it may be well not to judge the weaker brother or sister in such issues that rely on one’s spiritual discernment. A new Christian lack much knowledge, so do not be too quick to judge a woman about her clothes.

**Deuteronomy 22:5 & Isaiah 47: 1-3.** (Or jewelry) **(1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Peter 3:3-5).**



Normally, the Word of God and the preaching of the word will accomplish their sanctifying work in due time.

Be careful of offending another brother.

In **Acts 10** when those sheets come out of heaven, the spirit of God tells Peter to kill and eat. Peter says, “Not so, Lord. I will not eat anything unclean or uncommon.” You know what Peter does later on in **Galatians 2**? Peter eats with these Gentiles. They said, “Hey, the Jews are coming down here to see us. They are going to be here in fifteen minutes.” Peter cleared out of there. He was inconsistent because the Jews were coming. The Jews were coming, and they were Gentiles. You know what happened?

Those Gentiles were feeding Peter, and they were laughing. They prayed over the meal. He was preaching about the vision that God gave him. They watched Peter and saw Peter’s dissimulations. (That means they saw his hypocrisy.)

Peter got up and said, “I gotta go boys!” He got out of there because he was afraid of what they were going to think. That offended those new, weak Gentile believers. They said, “He just told us it was okay! Now what do we do?”

Peter was living a double lifestyle. Paul rebuked him.

**Proverbs 18:19**

**Romans 14:22-23**

It is a terrible to have a guilty conscience before  
God

**Hebrews 10:26:** *“For if we sin willfully...”*

**Verse 27:** *“...fearful looking for judgment...”*

**1 John 4:18:** *“...fear hath torment...”*

**Romans 14:23**

Doubt is the opposite of faith, and it is defined as sin. When a Christian walks in the flesh, there will be condemnation because he is walking in sin.

**Romans 8:1**

In dealing with doubtful disputations, we must recognize that there is a thin line between contending for the faith (opposition to wrong and militancy for right, **Jude 3**) and contention (arguing over the non-essentials). There is also a thin line between compromise and cooperation.

We must never compromise the clear in junction of Scripture. However, we are free to cooperate in that upon which Scripture is silent, as long as no one is offended nor their faith is destroyed by it.

## Lesson 69 Questions

1. It is wrong for a Christian to stay immature.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. The Kingdom of God is:
  - a. Material
  - b. Spiritual
3. A weak Christian is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ person.
  - a. Strong-willed
  - b. Easily offended
  - c. Knowledgeable
  - d. Spiritual
4. What is the greatest tool to edify one another?  
The Bible
5. There is no sin greater than another.
  - a. True
  - b. False
6. Who did Paul rebuke for living a double lifestyle?
  - a. Philip
  - b. Peter
  - c. Judas
  - d. John
7. There is no difference between compromise and cooperation.
  - a. True
  - b. False
8. What is NOT a doubtful disputation?
  - a. Movie Theaters
  - b. What type of Bible to use
  - c. Smoking
  - d. Dressing Modestly

9. What kind of spirit does the church need to have?
  - a. Seriousness
  - b. Unity
  - c. Compromise
  - d. Contention
10. The spiritual priority must be:
  - a. Externals
  - b. Encouragements
  - c. Eternals
  - d. All of the above