
Romans: Theology 101
"Dealing With Differences"
Romans 14:1-5

06-07-20

Introduction: We have come to one of the more important chapters, not just in Romans, all of scripture.

1. Since the earliest days of Christianity, the followers of Jesus have struggled to maintain unity when differences surfaced.
2. There is an answer, but it is often hard to accept.
3. Our culture has programmed us to deal with difference in inefficient ways. As a result, our differences are rarely resolved; division & conflict are a constant threat.
4. Today & throughout chapter 14 we will learn how to deal with our differences in a way that maintains unity & honors God!

I. Identifying the Problem

- A. Weaker Believers
- B. Stronger Believers
- C. Libertine Believers
- D. Strict Believers

II. Practicing Acceptance

- A. Avoid Criticism
- B. Recognize God's Acceptance
- C. Recognize Christian Liberty

Conclusion: Here's what we must understand:

1. This is the starting point.
2. Paul has more to say regarding our differences & unity.
3. The question is: Are we listening? Are we willing to obey?
4. The church has always been, will always be diverse.
5. Most of our relationships in life will face diversity.
6. As you can see, God has answers!
7. As we understand our differences & practice acceptance:
 - Our differences can be diffused.
 - The church & our relationships will be stronger.
 - All to the Glory of God.