
Romans: Theology 101

"Living Peaceably in the Body of Christ"

Romans 14:6-23

06-14-20

Introduction: As we waded into chapter 14 last week, we noted how important this chapter is for the body of Christ.

1. Christianity is a diverse community, but we humans have historically struggled with diversity. The result is obvious & painful.
2. God designed the body of Christ to work in a harmonious, interdependent way.
3. Our differences have led to unnecessary conflict & division.
4. Chapter 14 gives us much needed guidance on how to better deal with our differences.
5. Last week we identified the problem & elevated the practice of acceptance.
6. Today we take the next step.
 - Our ability to accept each other grows as we better understand each other.
 - Paul focuses our need for understanding in two important directions.

I. We Should Understand Motivation

A. The Lordship of Christ

B. The Reality of Judgment

II. We Should Understand Perspectives

A. Liberty & Love

B. Peace & Growth

Conclusion: Now, let's be real. Is it possible to resolve every difference & avoid every conflict?

1. Maybe in theory, but in practice we humans are imperfect creatures.
2. Is it possible to make progress?
3. The more we work at understanding each other, the more progress we will make. That will make our relationships stronger & give God the glory He deserves!