



Peace and Joy

When Confident, Confused Christians Clash

Befriend, don't condemn

Romans 14:1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but* not for *the purpose of* passing judgment on his opinions.

² One man has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables *only*.

³ Let not him who eats regard with contempt him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats, for God has accepted him.

⁴ Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and stand he will, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Keep your convictions; don't go liberal

⁵ One man regards one day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind.

Keep it all about Jesus

⁶ He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God.

⁷ For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself;

⁸ for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived *again*, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Remember, we'll have some explaining to do

¹⁰ But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God.

¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹² So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Edify, don't entice

¹³ Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this-- not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother's way.

¹⁴ I know and am convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but to him who thinks anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

¹⁵ For if because of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died.

¹⁶ Therefore do not let what is for you a good thing be spoken of as evil;

¹⁷ for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸ For he who in this way serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

¹⁹ So then let us pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another.

²⁰ Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offense.

²¹ It is good not to eat meat or to drink wine, or *to do anything* by which your brother stumbles.

²² The faith which you have, have as your own conviction before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

²³ But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because *his eating is* not from faith; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

Carry the weak to worship

15:1 Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not *just* please ourselves.

² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to his edification.

³ For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell upon Me."

⁴ For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus;

⁶ that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Wherefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

...¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 5:1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* in order that we may also be glorified with *Him*.

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

¹⁹ For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope

²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

²⁴ For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one also hope for what he sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.

²⁶ And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;

²⁷ and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*.

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;

³⁰ and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

Romans 12:9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;

¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

John 17:17 "Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth.

¹⁸ "As Thou didst send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

¹⁹ "And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ "I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

²¹ that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, *art* in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me.

²² "And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, just as We are one;

²³ I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, that the world may know that Thou didst send Me, and didst love them, even as Thou didst love Me.

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