

## **Romans 14 Outline**

### **1A** The responsibilities of the strong in faith, vv.1-4:

- 1B** Command to mentor without dispute, 1: Take close alongside the one who is weak in faith, not to disputes of debates.
- 2B** A distinguishing issue, 2: While some trust to eat all things, others who are weak eat vegetables.
- 3B** The attitude of the strong toward the weak, 3: Let not the one who eats consider as nothing the one who does not eat, and do not let the one who eats judge the one who does not eat; for God has taken him close alongside.
- 4B** Proper orientation to the Lord, 4: Who are you, the one who judges the household servant of another? He stands or falls before his own master. But he will be made to stand; For God is able to make him stand.

### **2A** Strong and weak belief systems and our life in Christ, vv.5-9:

- 1B** A second distinguishing issue, 5a: While some judge one day above another day, others judge every day [the same].
- 2B** The requirement for each, 5b: Let each in his own mind be fully assured.
- 3B** The distinctions based on knowledge, 6: The one who understands the day, understands to the Lord; and the one who does not understand the day, does not understand to the Lord. And the one who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God.
- 4B** Reasons to live and die, vv.7-9:
  - 1C** The universal unselfishness of living and dying, 7: For none of us lives for himself, and no one dies for himself.
  - 2C** The Creator as the ultimate direction of our living and dying, 8: For if we live, we live to the Lord; If we die, we die to the Lord; Therefore whether we live, whether we die, we are of the Lord.
  - 3C** Christ the master of life and death, 9: For this reason Christ indeed died and rose and lived, that also He might master dying and living.

### **3A** Prohibition against judging, vv.10-13:

- 1B** Provocative questions regarding judgment, 10a: But you, why do you judge your brother? Or also you, why do you consider as nothing your brother?
- 2B** The principle of ultimate accountability, 10b: For everyone will present themselves at the judgment seat of Christ.
- 3B** Scripture evidence for accountability, 11: For it has been written, "I myself live," says the Lord, "That every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will confess to God."
- 4B** The principle of ultimate accountability reiterated, 12: So therefore each of us will give to God an account of himself.

- 5B** Command against judging one another, 13: Therefore judge one another no longer; but judge this, not to put a stumbling block or snare before our brother.
- 4A** The superiority of love over knowledge, vv.14-18:
  - 1B** Paul's knowledge of food, 14: I know and I am convinced by the Lord Jesus, that nothing is common through itself; except to the one who considers anything to be common, to that one it is common.
  - 2B** The superiority of love, vv.15-18:
    - 1C** The danger of knowledge when among the weak, 15a: But if because of food your brother is grieved, you are no longer walking in accordance with love.
    - 2C** Warning against destruction of the weak through knowledge, 15b: Do not destroy with your food that one for whom Christ died.
    - 3C** The relationship to reputation, 16: Therefore do not let your good be slandered;
    - 4C** The nature of God's kingdom, 17: for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
    - 5C** The double reward for the humble, 18: For the one who serves Christ in these things is pleasing to God, and approved by men.
- 5A** Concluding principles on knowledge and the superiority of love, vv.19-23:
  - 1B** The proper focus and pursuit in life, 19: Therefore let us pursue the things of peace, and the things from which one edifies another.
  - 2B** The improper actions of the one with knowledge, 20: Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are clean but are evil for the man who eats through stumbling.
  - 3B** The proper restraint in the presence of weaker brothers, 21: It is good to not eat meat, nor to drink wine, nor [anything] by which your brother stumbles or is entrapped or is made weak.
  - 4B** The proper place and care of knowledge in faith, 22: Do you have faith? Have it for yourself before God. Blessed is the one who does not judge himself in what he approves.
  - 5B** The danger of ignorance, 23: But the one who doubts, if he eats, he is condemned, because [he did so] not from faith; now what is not from faith, is sin.
- 6A** Doxology, vv.24-26:
  - 1B** Praise to the ability of God, 24a: Now to the One who is able to make you stand fast
  - 2B** The patterns of the ability, 24b-c:
    - 1C** The patterns of the Gospel and preaching, 24b: according to my Gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ,
    - 2C** The pattern of mystery doctrine, 24c: according to the revelation of the mystery kept silent for all time,
  - 3B** The revelation of the mystery in written prophetic form, 25:

- 1C The type of revelation, 25a: but now has been made manifest, through prophetic writings,
- 2C The pattern of the revelation, 25b: according to the command of the eternal God,
- 3C The purpose of the revelation, 25c: for the obedience of faith toward being made known to all the Gentiles,
- 4B Praise to the unique God, 26: to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever, Amen.