



Romans 14:1-13

**Accept One Another
in God's Grace**

Romans 14:1-13

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:1-13, cont.

One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

Romans 14:1-13, cont.

For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

IBC: A History of Grace and Compassion

- **Officers only, 1979**
- **Officers and enlisted men**
- **Officers and enlisted men and business families**
- **English speakers and Hungarians**
- **“The Value of One” Everybody Matters**
- **“International,” 1987**
- **50+ Nationalities + Spanish Fellowship + Indian Fellowship**
- **One Lord**

1. God accepts us only by grace in Christ

- **“Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him” (Rom. 14:3).**
- **The Pharisee and the Tax Collector: “God be merciful to me, a sinner. I tell you, this man, rather than the Pharisee, went home justified. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:13-14).**

Paul's Claim

- **“It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost” (1 Tim. 1:15).**

2. It is morally wrong to judge the servant of another

- **Especially if it is God's servant.**
- **"To his own master he stands or falls and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand" (Rom. 14:4).**
- **"Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind" about what is right or wrong to do (Rom. 14:5).**
- **"My children, with whom I am again in labor until Christ is formed in you" (Gal. 4:19)**
- **There is an old saying: "We go where we are celebrated, not where we are tolerated."**

3. We will each give an account of ourselves before Christ

- “Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God” (Romans 14:10)**
- Draw a circle around yourself! You must give account of your life to Christ!**
- We will be judged by Him in part on how we encouraged our brother and sister.**