**ROMANS 14:1 – 23**

Expanded Outline

1. Duties to God and Man (12:1 – 15:13)

7. Forbearance in matters of opinion (14:1 – 23)

* 1. The weak in faith should not be despised and the strong in faith should not be condemned (14:1 – 12)
     1. Receive the weak brother (14:1)
     2. In matters involving food: (14:2 – 4)
        1. The strong should not show contempt for the weak (14:2 – 3a)
        2. The weak should not judgmentally condemn the strong (14:3b)
        3. Each one is accountable to his own master (14:4)
     3. In regard to days, let each one be fully assured in his own mind and act accordingly, without judging others (14:5)
     4. Everything done should be done for the Lord (14:6 – 9)
     5. There should be no judging or despising in matters of opinion for we are accountable to God in such matters (14:10 – 12)
  2. Our liberty in the Gospel in matters of opinion should not be used to the injury of others (14:13 – 23)
     1. Don’t put a stumbling block in another’s way (14:13)
     2. All food is clean; but if one thinks a food is unclean, to him it is unclean (14:14)
     3. If our actions in matters of opinion cause our brother to stumble, we no longer walk in love and are in sin (14:15 – 16)
     4. The essential character of the kingdom: (14:17 – 18)
        1. Not eating and drinking (14:17a)
        2. Righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (14:17b - 18)
     5. Build up; do not destroy (14:19 – 21)
        1. Pursue things which make for peace and edify (14:19)
        2. Do not destroy the work of God for something non-essential (14:20)
        3. Do nothing which would cause others to stumble (14:21)
     6. Do not condemn self by insisting on that which causes others to stumble (14:22)
     7. To act without conviction regarding the rightness of something is sinful (14:23)

Questions on Romans 14:1 – 23

1. What does it mean to be weak in faith?
2. How are the weak in faith to be treated?
3. How is the person whose faith is strong to treat the brother who cannot eat?
4. Can the weak in faith condemn those whose faith allows them to eat all things? Explain.
5. To whom are we answerable in matters of opinion?
6. Which is right: regarding some days above others or all days alike?
7. As we live and act, whom are we serving?
8. Before whose judgment seat will we all stand?
9. Instead of judging others in matters of opinion, we should think about what according to Romans 14:13?
10. How can a thing which is clean (acceptable) be made unclean (sinful)?
11. How do we “hurt” a brother with meat?
12. If we cause a brother to stumble by insistence on an item of opinion, what are we lacking?
13. Discuss the arrogance of destroying the faith or soul of another by insisting on one’s rights.
14. How can our good be spoken of as evil?
15. If the essential nature of the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, then what is it?
16. What are we to pursue according to Romans 14:19?
17. What does “eats with offense” mean in Romans 14:20?
18. How many areas of opinion does Paul indicate we should forego rather than cause our brother to stumble?
19. Explain why doing something we are not sure is right is always wrong.