



# THINGS THAT MATTER AND THINGS THAT DON'T

# "Accepting One Another"

Romans 14:1-12

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1046.  
In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.  
Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com

## REVIEW:

1. Romans 13 teaches us our spiritual duties to *Love, Look and Live*—**Love** one another as we love ourselves; **Look** for the soon-coming return of Christ; and **Live** for Christ (not the flesh).
2. Put off the deeds of darkness and put on the light of Christ.
3. Sin will take you farther than you ever intended to go, it will keep you longer than you ever intended to stay and it will cost you more than you ever intended to pay.
4. Here's the best news: **1 John 1:9, ESV** -<sup>9</sup> *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*



### Background for Romans 14:1-12

*"There was trouble in the church in Rome"*

- A. They had new believers and long-time believers.
- B. They had converted Jews and converted Gentiles.
- C. They had vegetarians and meat-eaters.
- D. They had those that observed special days and those that didn't.
- E. They had those who drank wine and total abstainers.

Point: *The NT makes it clear that the earliest Christians had difficulty accepting new or different people into their churches.*

Bonus: Paul spends two chapters talking about how we, in the church, should get along.

# "Accepting One Another"

Romans 14:1-12

**STUDY VERSE SECTION:** **Romans 14:1, HCSB** -<sup>1</sup> Accept [gives us our English word, *tolerate*; lit., "put up with;" the Greek word means "To extend a welcome, receive into one's home or circle of acquaintances"] *anyone who is weak* [lit., *sickly*, used abstractly here, it's one who needs moral strength or maturity; it can be translated "inexperienced"] *in faith, but don't argue about doubtful issues* [lit. *opinions* (v. tolerating blatant sin)]

## Four Reasons to Accept One Another:

### 1. God accepts you.

**Romans 14:1–3, HCSB** -<sup>1</sup> *Accept anyone who is weak in faith, but don't argue about doubtful issues.* <sup>2</sup> *One person believes he may eat anything, but one who is weak eats only vegetables.* <sup>3</sup> *One who eats must not look down on one who does not eat, and one who does not eat must not criticize one who does, because God has accepted him.*

### 2. God sustains you.

**Romans 14:4, HCSB** -<sup>4</sup> *Who are you to criticize another's household slave? Before his own Lord he stands or falls. And he will stand. For the Lord is able to make him stand.*

### 3. God is Lord over you.

**Romans 14:5–9, HCSB** -<sup>5</sup> *One person considers one day to be above another day. Someone else considers every day to be the same. Each one must be fully convinced in his own mind.* <sup>6</sup> *Whoever observes the day, observes it for the honor of the Lord. Whoever eats, eats for the Lord, since he gives thanks to God; and whoever does not eat, it is for the Lord that he does not eat it, yet he thanks God.* <sup>7</sup> *For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself.* <sup>8</sup> *If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.* <sup>9</sup> *Christ died and came to life for this: that He might rule over both the dead and the living.*

### 4. God will judge you.

**Romans 14:10–12, HCSB** -<sup>10</sup> *But you, why do you criticize your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before the tribunal of God.* <sup>11</sup> *For it is written: **As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to Me, and every tongue will give praise to God.*** <sup>12</sup> *So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.*