

Be Transformed in Strength

Romans 14:1-15:13

Key Verse: 12:1, 2 & 15:7

1. Read verses 1-4. What should be the attitude of strong and knowledgeable Christians toward those whose faith is weak? What are some disputable matters? In the matter of eating, which one seems to be weak? What does it mean to “accept” (1,3)
2. Read verses 5-8. Why should we not compare ourselves with others? Why don’t we all have to agree? What does it mean to do or not do things “to the Lord”? What does it mean that we belong to the Lord?
3. Read verses 9-15. To whom is each of us accountable? In light of these verses, why can we not judge or look down on our brothers? What does verse 11 mean? What should we do instead of judging others? Of what was Paul fully convinced in his own mind? What is more important than being right? How can we act in love? Why are our Christian brothers so precious? (15b)
4. Read verses 16-21. What does it mean to not allow what we consider good to be spoken of as evil? What is characteristic of God’s kingdom? How can we please God? To what does “therefore” refer? What must we make every effort to do? How can we build up a peaceful environment without compromising? How can we build up each other?
5. Read verses 22-23. What should we keep between ourselves and God? Why must we be open to change our minds sometime? What is the bottom line in making decisions about what we do and don’t do?
6. Read verses 1-4. What does it mean to “bear with”? Whom should we try to please? What should be our guiding principle in pleasing him? What is the example of Jesus? Did he have to endure insults? Why did he? How could he have pleased himself? How does reading the Scriptures to help us bear with others? How can we have hope in spite of our weaknesses and the weaknesses of others? How can we plant the hope of God in our sheep?
7. Read verses 5-7. What is Paul’s prayer for a fellowship whose members have no human grounds for unity? How can people who are very different find a true spirit of unity? How can we glorify God with one heart and mouth? Why must we?
8. Read verses 8-13. What was God's purpose for the Jews? (Ge 12:3; Ex 19:6) How did Jesus become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God’s truth? What do these verses teach about God's world salvation plan? How do these verses show that the Gentiles are included in God’s plan? Who is the Root of Jesse? (Isa 11:1,10) What is the hope of the Gentiles and the hope of all people?