

UNITY IN CHRIST – PART 4

Introduction – The house churches in Rome were quarreling over issues related to Jewish traditions versus Gentile ones. The issues change over time about disputable matters, but the need for mutual respect remains essential.

A. The kingdom of God is about righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:13-18

1. First stop passing judgment on one another.
2. Do not create stumbling blocks over your opinions.
3. Paul is convinced no food is unclean based on Christ, but is willing to sacrifice his opinion in order to not destroy others spiritually.

B. Make every effort to do what leads to peace and mutual edification.

Romans 14:19-23

1. Keep divisive opinions between yourself and God, rather than create a hostile environment for others.
2. Do not contradict your opinions by your behaviors.
3. One who has doubts about the correctness of certain behaviors should not be pressured to contradict their conscience.

C. Accept one another as Christ accepted you.

Romans 15:1-7

1. Do not be selfish by insisting on having your way, but do what will help your weaker brothers and sisters.
2. Have the self-sacrificial attitude of Christ in regard to matters of opinion.

Conclusion – Unity is maintained when the strong bear with the weak. Let us concentrate on the undisputable matters of our Christian faith.