

Romans 14:7-12

The Judgment Seat of Christ

1. 14:6 – To the Lord

- a. 14:6 – Regard/regard not vs. eat/eat not – the Lord instructed both in scripture.
- b. *“to the Lord”* means the action is done in obedience to the Lord (not self-willed Col 3:23)
- c. This is not deflecting glory/honor given you *“to the Lord”* (fame, success, etc.) 1Cor 10:31

2. 14:7-9 – We are the Lord’s

- a. v7 - *“none of us”* – The weak or the strong in the faith; both serve the Lord.
- b. *“liveth to himself... dieth to himself”* - I.e. to live and die in service to our own will.
- c. v8 - *“unto the Lord”* – As servants of God not men - 1Co 7:22-23, Gal 1:10, Eph 6:6, Col 3:24
 - i. Common ground for both weak & strong, by all in the faith, all in the Lord.
 - ii. Our life and death are in service to his will - Phi 1:10, 2 Cor 4:10-12
- d. *“whether we live or die”* - He is our Lord in life and death (we are never free of the Lord)
 - i. Unlike job, mortgage, marriage, this more serious & certain (nothing separates us)
- e. *“we are the Lord’s”* - Thru faith created by, belong to, saved and in service of the Lord.
 - i. There is no allowance of ‘our will’ in these matters, only God’s will - 1 Cor 6:19-20
- f. v9 - *“to this end”* - to be Lord of all you people – Gal 1:4, Eph 1:20-22, Ti 2:14, 2 Cor 5:15
- g. *“and rose”* - The Lord stood up (rose) did not stay buried (put under) - Col 3:1
- h. *“and revived”* - His resurrection gave him power (and us life) - John 5:21-23, Acts 17:31

3. 14:10-11 – Judgment Seat of Christ

- a. *“why dost thou judge...”* - The weak judged those eating all, and not regarding days.
- b. *“why dost thou set at nought...”* - The strong despise, look down upon, treat as nothing.
- c. *“for we all shall stand...”* - Both weak and strong, shall stand before ... 1 Cor 4:3-5
- d. *“the judgment seat of Christ”* - phrase 1 of 2x, (the other is 2 Cor 5:10, not 1 Cor 3)
- e. Different times of judgment relate to different resurrections - John 5:29, Rev 20:6
- f. *“of Christ”* - If changed to *“of God”* it removes a statement of Christ’s deity (see v11)
- g. Christ seated at every judgment, but who/what/when differs - ex. 1 Cor 3:13 vs. Rev 20:12
- h. v11 - *“as I live, saith the LORD”* - swear on his life, being eternal, holy, true, re: judgment.
- i. *“every knee shall bow...”* - Isa 45:23 applied by Paul to Jesus as God/man in Phi 2:9-10
- j. In Phil all will bow in submission to him as Lord. Rom 14 is reminding the saints now.

4. 14:12 – Our Account to God

- a. *“so then every one of us”* - weak, strong, all. See also *“shall all stand before...”* v10
- b. *“shall give account”* - We all have a day of confession/testimony/witness (but God knows)
 - i. Q: ‘How did you live?’ What will you say? The answer is how to live now.
 - ii. What will be the result? If the work builds aright, then a reward (salvation a gift)
 - iii. Rewards for faithful, pure, honorable work on Paul’s foundation - 1 Cor 3:9-15
- c. *“of himself”* – Personal accountability: we don’t give account for another or to another.
- d. This refutes accountability errors re: marriages, houses, pastors, children, rulers. Heb 13:17
- e. *“to God”* – Who is Christ in v10, the righteous Judge.