

# ROMANS 56 – 14:4-13

To the Weak...

## 1. 14:4-5 – Fully Persuaded

- a. *“Yea, he shall...for God is able”* – He stands by faith - 2 Cor 1:24, 12:9, Eph 2:5-6
- b. Persuaded *def.* = Convinced, proven, drawn to a determination, assured
- c. Assurance *def* = trust, full persuasion, confidence, steadiness, certainty
- d. *“be fully persuaded”* – encourages study to show *yourself* approved unto God
- e. Things mistaken for persuasion:
  - i. Boldness – loudness is not certain – 1 Cor 5:6 *“glorying is not good”*
  - ii. Stubbornness – a characteristic of unbelief - Rom 2:5, Acts 7:51, 1 Cor 2:14
  - iii. Authority – status does not make them infallible – Gal 2:6,11; 5:7-8
  - iv. Education – gainsayers will be educated - Titus 1:9-11, 1 Cor 1:26-28, 2:4-5
  - v. *“ever learning”* and never coming to the truth - 2 Tim 3:7
  - vi. Tradition – popularity or repetition does not make it true – Col 2:8

## 2. 14:5-6 – Esteeming Days

- a. These are not Christmas, Valentines, Halloween, Lent, but Biblical days Col 2:16
  - i. The war for men’s souls is far more valuable than the war on Christmas
- b. Muslims, Hindus, Jews, all esteem and observe days one over another
- c. The one that esteems days above others is weak in Pauline doctrine – Gal 4:10-11
- d. There was a Sabbath controversy in early “church” history: it wasn’t Paul’s fight
- e. Jewish holy days are an important part of Israel’s kingdom – Isa 66:21-23

## 3. 14:6-9 – All live and die unto the Lord

- a. All serve the Lord in what they do – 1 Cor 10:31-32, Rom 15:6, Gal 2:8
- b. The common ground – *“we are the Lord’s”* – Eph 1:10, 1 Cor 4:3-4
- c. God knows those that are his, he doesn’t need your help judging - 2 Tim 2:19

## 4. 14:10-13 – The judgment seat of Christ

- a. *“why dost thou judge”* – the weak depends on flesh, ordinances – Phil 3:3, Col 2:20
- b. *“all stand... every knee”* – emphasis on the ALL – Isa 45:23-25
- c. *“every tongue confess...”* – This is Paul’s doctrine of the deity of Christ
- d. Personal accountability to the Lord for our service is a body truth.
  - i. There is not a holy nation above or a nation of priests – Heb 13:7, 13:17
- e. The account is given to God, and the stumbling would be over the laws.
- f. *“give an account of himself”* – What will you say? – 1 Cor 11:31-32
- g. Our labor now, or lack of it, is manifest to God for eternity – 2 Cor 5:9-11
- h. Rewards for faithful, pure, honorable work on Paul’s foundation - 1 Cor 3:9-15
- i. People are crowns, why judge/condemn/curse them – 1 Thess 2:19, Phil 2:16, 4:1
- j. *“Judge this...”* – the weak use the law as an obstacle, the strong use their liberty

## 26 Fables about the Nativity and Christmas

1. Christ was not born in 0 BC/AD
2. Christ was not born on December 25<sup>th</sup>
3. Mary did not ride into Bethlehem on a donkey
4. Mary did not give birth the same night she arrived
5. Joseph never talked to the innkeeper
6. There was no stable
7. There was no halo around his head
8. There was no drummer boy
9. The angels did not sing
10. Peace on earth did not come at the birth of Jesus
11. There was no snow in the field
12. It was not a silent night
13. Three kings did not visit Jesus
14. There were not three wise men
15. The wise men did not see the baby Jesus
16. The star was not astrological
17. Mary and Joseph were not alone
18. Jesus' birth was not miraculous
19. The birth of Jesus is not the gospel
20. The birth of Christ was not the most important event in history
21. The Lord did not tell us to celebrate his birthday
22. Christ was not begotten in the manger
23. Celebrating his birth is not how we are told to glorify God (Gal 6:14)
24. Jesus is not the reason for the season
25. Christmas was not celebrated by the great revivalist preachers of the 18-19<sup>th</sup> c.
26. Charles Spurgeon was the Bible Preacher, and Charles Dickens was the Spiritist