

## **ROMANS 14:10-23—HOW FAR DO WE GO WITH LIBERTY?**

Even though Christians have freedom in Christ, we are not to abuse this liberty in certain situations. There are times when we are to refrain from using these liberties. The issue for the mature Christians is how they exercise their freedom in light of how it will make an effect on others. When strong believers restrict their lives to conform to the stricter standards of the weaker believers, they will build close relationships with each other. Surrendering liberty for the sake of others demonstrates love for others. 1 Pet 2:16-Act as free men and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bondslaves of God. 1 Cor 6:12, 10:23 Do all things for the sake of the gospel. 1 Cor 9:23

### **1. DON'T JUDGE YOUR BROTHER**

**VV 10-13**

#### **A. JUDGING OTHERS**

Christians are not to play God. We are not to judge and despise others.

Krino-condemnation, denunciation

#### **B. JUDGMENT SEAT OF GOD (BEMA)**

If we have the temptation to judge others, we should keep in mind

That we will be judged by the Lord at the judgment seat of Christ.

God alone is qualified to judge the minds and hearts of His people.

1 Cor 3:11-15, 2 Cor 5:10,

Isa 45:23/Phil 2:10-11

#### **C. ACCOUNTABLE**

Eph 4:29, 5:4, Mt 12:37

Talents-Mt 25:21,23, Money-Mt 6:19-21,24, Time-Eph 5:15-16

### **2. DON'T BE A STUMBLING BLOCK**

**VV 13**

#### **A. DETERMINE THIS**

Krino—make a careful decision, use your best judgment

1 Cor 8:9

Determine in your mind to be sensitive to any weakness in a believer

And don't do anything to make one spiritually and morally stumble.

#### **B. STUMBLING BLOCK**

Skandalizo—trap, snare, cause one to stumble

The NT does not forbid the drinking of alcohol, but there are many good reasons to abstain. It certainly can have a negative effect on former alcoholics. Drinking in moderation can cause one to fall back into former addiction.

### **3. DON'T GRIEVE YOUR BROTHER**

**VV 14-15**

#### **A. KNOW AND CONVINCED**

Oida—absolute, positive knowledge

Peitho—finished persuasion

The strong is right that he can enjoy anything the Lord does not condemn as sin.

The weak can be wrong in not having complete and mature understanding.

#### **B. UNCLEAN**

Koinon—common, unhallowed

Acts 10:15, 1 Tim 4:3-5, Titus 1:15

**C. HURT**

Lupeo—pain , distress, grief

Our words and actions effect fellow believers.

**D. DESTROY**

Apollumi—ruin, loss of well-being

Limited atonement—for whom Christ died

Used to describe believers—Christ's sacrifice on behalf of the elect.

The scope of the sacrifice was unlimited in its sufficiency, but limited in its application.

**4. DON'T BLOW YOUR WITNESS VV 16-19**

**A. GOOD SPOKEN OF AS EVIL**

**B. KINGDOM OF GOD**

Righteousness—Phil 1:11, Eph 6:14

Peace—Gal 5:22, Rom 12:10-13 Interested in serving others rather  
Than pleasing themselves.

Joy—1 Thess 1:6

**C. ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, APPROVED BY MEN**

Euarestos—well-pleasing, acceptable

Dokimos—put to the test for the purpose of being approved

**D. PEACE AND EDIFYING OTHERS**

Oikodomeo—to build up Eph 4:11-15

**5. DON'T PULL DOWN THE WORK OF GOD VV 20-21**

**A. DESTROY—(Kataluo) loosen, tear down**

It would be appalling to deface a Rembrandt or ruin a Stradivarius

**B. ALL THINGS ARE PURE (Kathara)**

**C. WORK OF GOD**

**6. DON'T DENOUNCE OR FLAUNT LIBERTY VV 22-23**