

Romans 14

It ain't what you do, it's the why that you do it!

Jesus' illustration



The big theme...



Verse 1.

1, **ACCEPT** him whose faith is weak (different to you!)

2, **WITHOUT PASSING JUDGEMENT**

3 on **DISPUTABLE MATTERS** (grey areas !)

Verse 2

One does this

Another does that

Verse 3

He looks down



He condemns



BUT God has already ACCEPTED him!

Verse 4

You are not the judge!

And THE judge's verdict is "It's OK"



Verse 5

One does this

Another does that

Each should be fully convinced

(look to yourself --- using reason not prejudice)

eg. We've always done it this way!

BUT don't just throw away traditions

Verse 6

He does it to the Lord

He does it to the Lord



Verses 7-8

For all of us, our lives are in God's hands, and we belong to him

Verse9

Since Jesus is in charge of the dead and the living

Don't do it!

Judging/ condemning or “looking down”



Verse 10

We will all be judged by God!
We will bow the knee & confess

So Get your own house in order!

4 things to do

Verses 13 - 16

1, Stop this judgementalism



2, Try to be helpful (no putting stumbling blocks in the way)



3, Nothing “in itself” is unclean BUT it depends on a person’s point of view and if a sensitive brother is offended by your actions you are not fulfilling the command to love your neighbour. So act in love!

4, Don’t harm others by your actions and become the cause of something good being called evil.

The REASON

Verses 17 -18

The Kingdom is not about eating and drinking

But is

1, **righteousness**

(a right relationship with God through Jesus)



2, **peace**

(between brothers and a personal
conscience at ease)

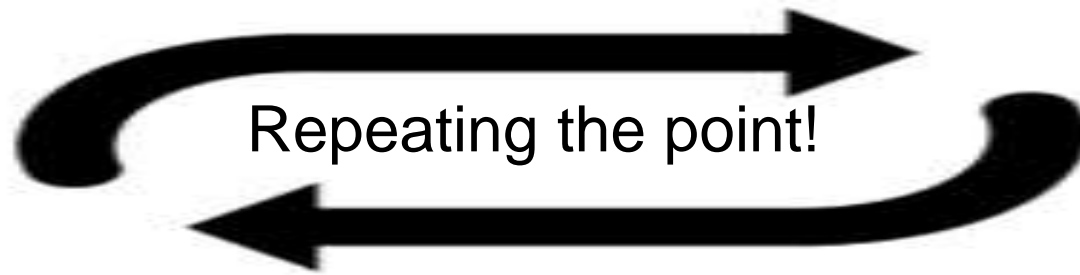


3, **joy in the Holy Spirit**

(the blessing of His conscious presence)



God is pleased with that and people see it too.

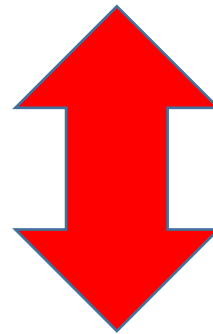


Verse 19 - 21,

1, Seek to be helpful (to build people up)
exercising self control to bless others

Verse 22

2, It's between you and God
personal faith



for the **“strong”** Make sure it's informed by the truth

Verse 23

for the **“weak”** If you don't think God will approve
don't do it. It's sin because you are
violating your conscience.

The last word from the Master ...

Matthew 7: 1 -5

