

## To Do or Not To Do 2022-10-30

### Romans 14:5-6

*One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.*

Halloween intro.

Do not judge non-essential matters where Bible gives no clear commands.

- Home school, music, alcohol, Halloween, mask, vaccinations

Called to judge moral issues with clear commands and foundational doctrinal truth.

- In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in everything, love.

Different: natural/spirit gift/maturity, experiences, strong/weak = different convictions.

- Conviction: strongly held belief in area without clear command in Word that governs your behavior.
  - no clear Biblical right/wrong side, not “Can I do?” but “Should I do?”
    - smoking? take care of temple! Overeating? Sugar?
- Convictions should be beliefs Biblically thought through carefully and held firmly.
  - Be fully convinced it is not sinful, honors Jesus, best way for you to act.
    - Maybe not evil but promote help self/other to grow spiritually.

Text: Jew/Gentile Christians very different convictions on eating meat and holy days.

### Romans 14:2, 5a

- Abstain from meat was not nutrition/animal love but associated with sinful behavior.
  - Jewish problem: meat preparation/type. Gentile concern: used in pagan sacrifice?
- Jewish annual holy days: PO but probably not Sabbath.

Issue differs over may be insignificant but manner differs over them very significant

- In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in everything, love.
  - Typically: stronger = look with contempt >weak, weaker = judge stronger.

text: weaker abstains. Here meat/certain days holy...me alcohol. Romans 14:1, 3b-4,

### Colossians 2:16

- not legalists in purest sense: not believe works contribute to justification.
  - Legalistic sense set right/wrong standards that the Law/Word don't.
- Motive good: believe abstain most glory/honor to Jesus.
  - Wrongly conclude what's wrong for them is wrong for everyone.
    - judge the strong as spiritually careless and believe will fall. James 4:11
      - God is their judge, not you. He will enable them to stand.

Here strong refers to Christians' greater grasp of grace reflected in their Christian liberties.

- liberties not sin/"gray" areas but things free to enjoy if conscience is clear. Strong are tempted to "despise" and flaunt liberty= prideful superiority. Romans 14:1, 3a, 21-15:1

- Christian love does not flaunt but appropriately surrender liberties so not to influence weak to sin by violating their conviction. Next Week Flaunt your "liberties"?

non-essential matters, motive is crucial: Whether enjoy/abstain, Do cause believe not sinful/violate conscience and glorifies God. Romans 14:5b-8, 1 Corinthians 6:12, 1 Corinthians 10:31

- Don't be lazy regarding convictions...through prayer/careful thought consider what God wants you to do and then joyfully, lovingly obey.

100 things to disagree on in which both ways can be done to glory of God.

- in non-essentials extend grace/understanding.....agree to disagree.
  - Accept one another, just as Jesus has accepted them/us.
    - In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in everything, love