ROMANS

Our Message to the World

AMEN Bible Study 2015-2016

Pursue Your Brother's Welfare

Romans 14:13-23 April 14, 2016

:13 I. The instruction: don't trip up your brother.

Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. cf. I Corinthians 8:9. 13: 10:27-30

:14 II. The conflict: liberty or love.

¹⁴ I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it is unclean. cf. Acts 10:15; Romans 14:23

:15-23 III. The solution: love.

¹⁵ For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. ... cf. I Corinthians 8;1; Ephesians 5:1, 2

:15b A. Unrestrained liberty can destroy your brother.

... By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died. cf. I Corinthians 8:7-13

:16 B. Your liberty can become an evil.

¹⁶ So do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil.

:17-23 C. Some things are more important.

:17 1. The Kingdom

¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

cf. Matthew 6:33; Romans 1:17; 3:21-26; 5:1; 8:18-25; 15:13

:18 2. Pleasing God

¹⁸ Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. cf. John 8:29; II Corinthians 8:21; I John 3:22

:19-21 3. Edifying your brother

¹⁹ So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. ²⁰ Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats. ²¹ It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble. cf. I Corinthians 10:23, 24

:22-23 4. Your conscience

²² The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves. ²³ But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin. cf. I John 3:21