

**ROMANS**  
**Our Message to the World**  
AMEN Bible Study 2015-2016

**Judge Not**

Romans 14:1-12

April 7, 2016

:1     **I. Welcome each other fully.**

*<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.*  
cf. Romans 15:1; Ephesians 2:14-18

antinomianism <= strong conscience vs. weak conscience => legalism  
    deep appreciation of grace     vs. deep appreciation for law  
    Gentile background             vs. Jewish background

:2     **II. We legitimately differ on disputable matters.**

*<sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables.*  
cf. Daniel 1:8, 10, 12, 16; I Corinthians 8:7, 8

“adiaphora”/non-essentials     vs.     biblical truth  
secondary biblical doctrines    vs.     cardinal/primary biblical doctrines

:3-12   **III. Remember why we welcome each other.**

:3     A. God welcomes every believer.

*<sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.*  
cf. Mathew 7:1-5; James 2:13; 4:11

:4     B. We are all God’s servants.

*<sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.*

:5-9    C. We must all obey our consciences.

:5     1. Believers’ consciences are bound differently.

*<sup>5</sup>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.*  
cf. Romans 14:14; Galatians 4:10; Colossians 2:16-17; but see also Heb 19:24-25; Acts 20:7

:6     2. All believers are seeking to serve the Lord.

*<sup>6</sup>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.*  
cf. I Corinthians 10:30, 31; I Timothy 4:3-5

:7-9   3. All believers belong to the Lord.

*<sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or*

*whether we die, we are the Lord's.<sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.*  
cf. II Corinthians 5:14, 15

:10-12

**D. God alone is the Judge.**

*<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup> for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." <sup>12</sup> So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.*

cf. II Corinthians 5:10; Isaiah 45:23; Matthew 16:27