

Convictions, Opinions, and Preferences **Romans 14:1-12**

God's good and perfect will (12:2) includes accepting one another's right to different personal convictions and preferences versus judging them. 14:1-15:13 tackles this issue, telling us to let God be the judge.

Accept/don't judge because God has accepted us. 1-4

- ◆ Different conviction #1: Diets
- ◆ Command: Have mutual acceptance rather than judging.
- ◆ Reason: God has accepted us so who are you to judge?
- ◆ Two groups emerge: the *weak* and the *strong*, 1,2, 15:1.
Question: What is a weak versus a strong believer?
- ◆ Keep them straight: absolutes, convictions, preferences!

Accept/don't judge because we belong to Christ. 5-9

- ◆ Different conviction #2: Days
- ◆ Command: each must be fully convinced (sincere).
- ◆ Reason: We belong to the Lord and live for Him.
- ◆ Reminder: We live and die for Christ who lived and died for us—not to appease another's judgment of us.

Accept/don't judge because God will judge us. 10-12

- ◆ Reproof: Why do you judge and show contempt?
- ◆ Reason: God will judge each of us.
Paul has the Bema Seat in mind (for believers), II Cor. 5:10, I Cor. 3:12ff. 4:1-5, I Jn. 4:17. God is to judge.



“Yes, let God be the Judge. Your job today is to be a witness.”

--Warren Wiersbe