

EXPEDIENCY AND THE GUIDELINES OF LIBERTY

Romans 14:1-23

Christian liberty can be a tricky thing... several Bible passages are written to help us with it. Romans 14 is KEY!

IS THERE LIBERTY IN THE MATTER? (Qualifiers)

- ⇒ No Biblical command disobeyed!
- ⇒ No precedent of example violated!
- ⇒ Not taking the option as license to sin!
- ⇒ Doesn't harm God's temple. (1st Cor.6:19-20)
- ⇒ Doesn't grieve God's Spirit. (Ep.4:30)
- ⇒ Doesn't compromise the church's witness!
- ⇒ Doesn't disregard spiritual leadership of the church.

Then principles of liberty may apply:

- 1– Do not quarrel over opinions— V.1
- 2– Do not pass judgments on opinions-V.2-4
- 3– Whether this option or that, we live and die to the Lord—v. 5-12 (Give account to Him)
- 4– Never put stumblingblock or hindrance before a brother—v. 13-16
- 5– Kingdom dynamics far surpass personal opinions—v.17-18
- 6– Pursue what leads to peace and upbuilding. (19-21)
- 7– Keep matters of opinion between you and God. (22)
- 8– Never flaunt your decisions of liberty- (v.22b)
- 9– Exercise opinions in faith, not doubt-(v.23)
- 10– Pleasing self is an unacceptable motive- (15:1-3)

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