

The Gospel in Shoe Leather, pt 8

Romans 14:1-12

What's IN and what's OUT

Appearance

Consumption

In non-essentials, welcome without judgment (1-6)

There is a Kingdom of God but not a cuisine of God.

Following conscience (5)

Key: judgment (1-5)

Strong terms

Despise

Pass judgment

Judgment is prohibited

We must awaken to the curse of quarrels

Problem:

3 exhortations:

We must avoid irritation

We must avoid ridicule

We must avoid contempt

Note: in essential doctrine, the approach must change

A life focus in the face of scruples (7-9)

Everything is *unto the Lord*.

Is whatever I believe and do for the Lord?

Personal responsibility & accountability (10-12)

Certainty: everyone will see the Lord

Result: God receives the praise He rightly deserves

Accountability: All will give an account

Response: take personal responsibility

How does it look when we live this out?

Begin with honor and respect.

Withhold snap judgments & refuse disdain.

Ask questions sincerely and listen carefully.

Discern between essentials & nonessentials.

Remember: you aren't God's gift to assess everyone!

