

## **The Gospel in Shoe Leather, pt 9**

### **Romans 14:13-15:2**

**Black, white & gray**

**Context**

**The stumbling block or stepping stone (13-14)**

Impeding or encouraging spiritual progress

**Confused priorities (15-17)**

⇒ demanding freedom that hurts others

2 negative outcomes

grieved and stumbled

Principle: love requires responsible, not reckless, liberty

Genuine faith moves from internal to external.

**Building up, not tearing down (18-23)**

Our pursuit: peace & edification

Our truth: nothing is inherently unclean.

Our danger: destroying the work of G

Our manner: voluntary limitation of freedom

## We can be right and wrong at the same time.

Right theology with wrong expression is wrong.

It doesn't matter how right my belief or conviction if I undermine the sincere conscience of a fellow believer.

One problem: the professional weaker brother

Bottom line: when the exercise of freedom hinders the work of G, I must limit my freedom

Conviction and faith (22-23)

A clear conscience fuels a life of faith.

I can't seek to change behavior without first leading to a change of conviction

**Bearing with the weak (15:1-2)**

Maturity brings obligation

Burden in this text is for the mature to voluntarily limit freedom to show love and sensitivity.

**Take it home**