

The Strong Believer and the Weak Believer: Questionable Functions and Behaviour – Christian Liberty Romans 14:10–23

1. *Leave the judgment up to God*

- a. Because everyone
will be judged by Christ
- b. Because every knee
will bow and confess
that Christ alone is God
- c. Because everyone will give
an account of himself to God

10 You, then,
why do you judge your brother?
Or why do you look down on your brother?
For we will all stand
before God's judgment seat.

11 It is written:
"As surely as I live," says the Lord,
'every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will confess to God.'"

12 So then,
each of us will give
an account of himself to God.

2. *Judge only one thing: Stumbling blocks*

- a. By watching the things
that people think are unclean
- b. By acting in love:
Not hurting, wounding,
ruining others

13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment
on one another.
Instead, make up your mind
not to put any stumbling block or obstacle
in your brother's way.

14 As one who is in the Lord Jesus,
I am fully convinced
that no food is unclean in itself.
But if anyone regards something as unclean,
then for him it is unclean.

15 If your brother is distressed
because of what you eat,
you are no longer acting in love.
Do not by your eating destroy your brother
for whom Christ died.

3. *Give no occasion for criticism*

- a. Because the Kingdom of God
is the believer's concern,
not pleasure

16 Do not allow what you consider good
to be spoken of as evil.

17 For the kingdom of God
is not a matter of eating and drinking,
but of righteousness,
peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,

<p>b. Because serving Christ and the Kingdom of God pleases God and men</p> <p>4. <i>Pursue things that bring peace and edification</i></p> <p>5. <i>Do not destroy or ruin the work of God in another person's life: It is sin to do so</i></p> <p>6. <i>Do nothing to cause a brother to fall</i></p> <p>7. <i>Watch and do not condemn yourself</i></p> <p>a. By keeping your faith</p> <p>b. By not going against conscience</p> <p>c. By acting on faith, from a conviction that God approves your behaviour</p>	<p>18 Because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.</p> <p>19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.</p> <p>20 Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.</p> <p>21 It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.</p> <p>22 So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves.</p> <p>23 But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.</p>
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