

I have some good news & some bad news this morning. The good news is that everyone who believes in Jesus for salvation is going to Heaven. The bad news is we're traveling there together! It's time to get out of earth with these angels as, hopefully if they disagree with us, we'll let the story is told of a little boy sitting on the front steps, with his face cradled in his hands, looking very upset. The dad came home & asked what was wrong. His son looked up & said, "Dad, just between us, God, in Heaven is being pretty angry with me that with all of your love of us, perhaps have fairly broken & maybe we've experienced fractures in the family of God as well. If Satan can get us to become arrogant, selfish, & out of sync with those whom we worship & love our Lord with, our relationships will be compromised. As we've learned, whether we're weaker or stronger, we must get along with one another even if we don't agree on the non-essential things that aren't addressed in the Bible. If we don't work at it, our differences will become rifts until eventually will separate. That's why it's so important to understand in Eph 2:19-20 **Therefore we possess the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** God's most beautiful creation isn't a magnificent mountain like a spectacular night sky, or even a newborn baby. The pinnacle of His creativity & His greatest achievement is His church. God's love Jesus loves the church so that one might be **body & members** (1). The death of Jesus has removed the sin that have stained the church's wedding gown. According to Eph 3:10, it's through the church that God makes known His wisdom to the world. There's a promise that as long as that bridge, entrance to God & unless people is often filled with complaints, grudges, bitterness, & disunity if the body of Christ is so beautiful, why do we bug each other so much? I mean, if we're honest, we get annoyed by those who disagree with what we think about these non-essential things. Our challenge this morning goes as I, may we do better than to those who don't humbly believe the same as we do in these non-essential, non-moral things. Turn in your Bibles to Rom 15 where we see that instead of avoiding or bad-mouthing those who differ from us, we must:

(1) Rom 15:7  
 (2) Rom 15:27

Look up (1)

Read more, or we'll send you more to ...

Read up (1)

6 items in set 6-6 with just up 2 more

Play (1)

Sign up (1)

**How to ...**

As we learned in Rom 14, Paul's writing to 2 different groups of people in the church, the weak & the strong, & each group can annoy the other. The problems they were like (whether or not to follow the OT dietary laws or not that sacrificed to idols) & they sometimes were more hinder than others. The stronger Christians had no problem with diet or days while the weaker ones had that some things weren't to be eaten. And some days were special. Everyone has opinions & preferences. It's easy to fall into thinking that the way we do things is the only proper way, right? My list is right & yours is wrong! Some even go out of their way to try to control how others think & behave, judging them according to their own bias. Let me make an important disclaimer once again: What we're talking about isn't a sin issue. If the Bible says it's wrong, it's wrong (no such debate or give ground on that). But in areas the Bible doesn't speak, there's freedom. Those who disagree with you about these things aren't wrong, just different. While the person who disagrees with me about some of these things isn't coming against me, I can very easily see against him by my attitude & actions.

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**1** - It's not about whether or not someone is weaker, it's about how you feel about it. If you're not ready to be a warrior, you're not a warrior. It's not about being weak or strong, it's about being ready to be a warrior. It's not about being weak or strong, it's about being ready to be a warrior. It's not about being weak or strong, it's about being ready to be a warrior.

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Some think a deeply held faith in Jesus promises a flow out into faithful living with a clean conscience.

Do you get more enjoyment out of pleasing yourself or in looking for ways to please others, even those you don't think they must seem to care not to please ourselves, but to sacrifice some others, especially those who are weak for the sake of strengthening them? Is holding God's kingdom, it's not living to please ourselves, it's living with others in mind. We aren't to be full of our own importance, we may have a right to do something, but the Christian life isn't about our rights. The Christian life is about sharing our rights, even though we have the right to do this, we deny ourselves for the sake of others, for the sake of peace, for the sake of harmony, for the sake of the blessing of the community, we bear with our neighbor's weaknesses. Paul told the Romans to put up with others because in Col 3:12 **we are called to help one another with love and kindness to the people of Christ**. Are you willing to put up with those who disagree with you or don't work towards the same goal? It's not about you, it's about **with us humbly & patiently, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love**. If you must deal with our little issues, of always thinking we're right & everyone else is wrong. When we're **humble**, we'll put up with people because we'll be thinking of them & not ourselves. 2<sup>nd</sup>, we're to **patience** with those who believe differently than we do, recognizing that God made us uniquely with us. 3<sup>rd</sup>, when we're **patient** with others we can help them grow in their faith & the understanding of their freedom in Christ. 4<sup>th</sup>, when we bear with others, we're to do so in an attitude of love, not indifference, tolerance, or hatred. Col 3:12 calls us to **showing humility with one another**. **Showing each other tolerance has a wonderful spiritual reward just in the fact that you, as they should you**. Maybe you're having a hard time dealing with someone because you believe they've wronged you. They haven't wronged you or have treated you with contempt, before you can bear with them, you may 1<sup>st</sup> need to forgive them for whatever they've done. We're not only to put up with others...

**3. Build Up** We're to build them up as well. Look in **vs 2**

the abandonment of the idea, a total pleasure agreement that only to him & his, the  
Paul speaks of the Christian's relationship to his fellow-believers using the term **brother**, here he  
uses the **brother's love**. By using so he broadens the application of his teaching on  
love & charity. Love that encompasses that we do good to a **brother** or sister. For **brother**  
anyone we have contact with, including our enemies (12-27-21, Mt. 5:43-48). If our **brother**  
doesn't see the self-sacrificing, compassionate care of Christ's people, they truly won't listen to our  
message about his love & sacrificial care for & compassionate care of us. We're not to please our  
neighbor. **2**

It is about pleasing others in a way that **glorifies** Christ & what builds them up in truth & faith.  
These last words are key: **to do good to the community**. We shouldn't try to please people with  
our own ideas of good for us. We should please people with God's ideas of good for them. **Good**  
is a term of usefulness, excellence, usefulness, truthfulness. It designates what is honorable. We  
know what's good from God's definition of good, from who God is & what He does. Do we please  
people for their good by strengthening their faith & knowledge & experience of God's goodness.  
It's a God-centered goal we're striving for. & the last phrase clarifies that further by adding that  
this goal is for **strengthening** for the comforting of the Christian & the strengthening of the Christian  
community. We don't want to please people just to make them be quiet or stop fighting or get  
over their issues or to keep some sense of false peace where issues are never addressed. We  
want to please people for their God-centered good. We are committed to please people in ways  
that lead to their experience of the goodness of God & His ways so they are built up in faith &  
knowledge & love & relationships. That's the right kind of people-pleasing of us.

When we bear with one another, we allow God to use us to help comfort Christians. When we  
encourage people, we help in the process of bearing their issues or strengthening them. We're not to  
just endure those around us but instead we're to encourage them. Our goal is to please others  
for the purpose of their **strengthening**. We're to build others up spiritually. We're to follow the  
preferences of other believers with respect to our behavior. i.e. if your neighbor has faith in the

can't build me you & I'm concerned is called by simply don't fix it, just freedom is close to her presence. If you did, don't like, don't like to be right. The objection of the church is for the stranger Christian who understand that freedom in Christ to come alongside & help bear the burden of the weak & help strengthen them & build them up. We're responsible for each other.

God is committed to building people up & he's groaned when we destroy what he's constructing. In 3/21 1993. **Build up, build up, prepare the way, because every obstacle out of the way of the people**

God doesn't want someone to take it to the way of a person's growth. He thought the burden is the body of Christ. 1 The 5:22 says, **Therefore encourage one another to build up one another**. Every one of us as Christians is either in the construction or demolition business. We either build up or tear down others. We must create & avoid from every obstacle & action which would tear down our neighbor, pressing in with those things which will build him up. In his faith. 1/13/2016

**1. build up** - he can shut up when we build up, but we can only do so if we're building up. Notice. The us starts with the word **to** because it's explaining why pleasing others is the right way to live. It's right because it's what our perfect Lord Jesus Christ did. Yes, He fulfilled God's plan for His own pleasure in His Fatherhood, but he didn't come to do what was required in His honor. In that way, he didn't please himself. He didn't love his life on Mar 27, so he loved for others, he loved for you & all His people. He loved for those for whom love came to die & provide atonement for ourselves for that love, up to 19/12.

**There they, struggle to accomplish what, say, say to Christ Jesus, who although he pointed to the Father in love, he did not come to please the Father, but to please the Father, who is the Father of all.**

To me look up & fix for eyes on Jesus, we'll be reminded that he didn't come to be served, **but to serve & to provide the means for many** (Mk 10:45). We're to be seeking to be the Jesus rather than demanding that others be like us. Jesus came to this earth & suffered, he is the example. Throughout John's gospel we see Jesus come to do His Father's will, he came to please His Father.

to do them so. Then the example we have. To maintain the unity within the church that we had he sacrificed about conforming to them. That means we need to be like him rather than try to make everyone be like us. Being like him means we don't do what please us, but we do what please others. I ultimately, him, while we may expect Paul to give an example from Christ's life to support or illustrate his point, he instead quotes from the OT about a righteous sufferer who had zeal for God's house & got was treated badly. Paul quotes Ps 69, a great messianic Psalm. **Psalm 69** by the quotation is Jesus. **Psalm 69** in Gal. Paul's point is Christ didn't think of his rights when he went to the cross, he thought only of our needs when he died for us. He endured every manner of taunting & suffering, now, if the Son of God didn't please himself when he went to the cross for us, how much more we ought not to seek to please our brothers & sisters in Christ? If Jesus could accept the needs of others, we should certainly be willing to put up with the minor irritations from Christians with different viewpoints.

Read Ps 69, & as you read it have Jesus before you & it will become clear to you what the psalm is about. It's a psalm about the suffering of Christ. It's a psalm about the self-denial. It's a psalm about Jesus becoming our sin-bearer & substitute. It's a psalm that recalls how our Lord was ridiculed, spat upon, how He was denied & abandoned by His enemies, betrayed by His brethren, crucified by the Jews & abandoned long afterwards even about Him.

Paul draws our attention to Jesus as our example, but the example he chooses to mention is more than an example, it's the act by which he saves us from the wrath of God. To become the kind of person who joyfully serves others rather than being them, consider Jesus. Look at Him. Especially look at His unflinching, substitutionary work on the cross. This is how we change

**boldly to be a witness to the glory of the Lord, we being transformed into the same image from glory to glory** (2 Cor 3:18). Look at his Christ, Jesus didn't please himself. He took on reproaches that weren't his to bear, so that good would come to us. That the God-hate of Scripture, that Jesus came from heaven as the God-man to endure what He never deserved. He never did anything wrong, but he suffered horrible wrong against him by those who hung him on a cross to die. But that was all God's plan from the beginning, that a virgin-born Man, a seed of the

because John 15:13, would come to reach the end without Christ's defeat. That's why John 15:13 on the cross, the completed death of sin by reaching the punishment that sin deserved in bearing the Father's wrath for all who would trust him. Then he rose again to prove his victory was complete & complete. He did that to secure forgiveness & eternal life for us. If we turn from sin to him to him, he got what those wanted & deserve. Instead of what our sinners should get because Jesus' death paid for those & his life secures us his righteousness. That's the love of Christ that poured out so strongly while he suffered reproach from sinful men. If you love & trust those in love & honor, then you'll want to be like him in the strong love he showed. John 15:13 reminds us of that love of Christ to motivate us that our petty little sacrifices to serve others are nothing in comparison. To take up our cross & follow Jesus like he said involves having others like him.

John 17:8 describes a very exciting time for 3 of the disciples when they saw Jesus transformed before their eyes. We need to do the same thing they did: **They to their glory, they to his glory.**  
**Example Jesus Christ:** Look up at Jesus & remember his pain on what you. 2. He went up with the person who's blessing you. Take your eyes off yourself & look the urge to judge others in these non-essential areas. This willingness to please God even though it meant suffering & death is the way to our ultimate Jesus always returned all of this, he was obedient to his own pain & agony. 4. He who bears all of this for the sake of pleasing the Father is our example. Rather than being able to please ourselves, we should follow the pattern of Jesus & be willing to suffer anything in pleasing one another. Jesus set aside his divine rights to be subject to the Father & is suffer for the sake of others to bring us to God. Can we do less for a fellow Christian?

- 4 New suggestions:
1. Make a list of the people within the church who differ from you with their beliefs about these Christian issues. Then, look through the eyes of our God to help you see people from his perspective.
  2. Pray for those you have trouble with daily for 2 weeks. I guarantee your relationship with them will change if you pray for them for more than 14 days! Don't believe me? Try it!









