

— Romans 14.1-3 —
Romans Series 90
THE WEAKER BROTHER

Romans 14 ¹Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. ²For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. ³Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him.

* **Rom 14.1** – 15.13 deals with what has often been called the doctrine of the _____ brother. Paul also spends a lot of time on this doctrine in 1Cor _____.

* **The historical** context of this doctrine in both letters had to do with what?

* **In the battle** between the Kingdom of God and the shadow kingdom of Satan, where is the battle the fiercest and what do the flash points mostly pertain to?

* **For OT Israel** and the early NT Church, standing against paganism meant standing against what?

Rev 2 ¹⁴“I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. ... ¹⁶Repent”
(see Num 25.1-3, 9)

Acts 15 ²⁸“It seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: ²⁹that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

* **The Bible** teaches us that we were created for two types of monogamy, which are what?

* **Why do** we need to consider 1Cor first?

* **With the** Corinthians, Paul was dealing straight up with Christians who were saying what?

Deut 6 ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Psalm 24 ¹ The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness.

* **Paul tells** them that they are correct about what? And therefor, when may they it or not eat it?

1Cor 10 ²⁵ Eat whatever is sold in the meat market, asking no questions for conscience' sake; ²⁶ for "the earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness." ²⁷ If any of those who do not believe invites you to dinner, and you desire to go, eat whatever is set before you, asking no question for conscience' sake. ²⁸ But if anyone says to you, "This was offered to idols," do not eat it for the sake of the one who told you, and for conscience' sake; for "the earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness." ²⁹ "Conscience," I say, not your own, but that of the other.

* **What does** Paul say about eating at the idol temples?

1Cor 8 ⁴ Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one ... ⁷ However, there is not in everyone that knowledge ... ⁹ But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. ¹⁰ For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? ¹¹ And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? ... ¹⁰ ²⁰ Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. ²¹ You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. ²² Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

* **Overall, what** does Paul reveal about these self-proclaimed "strong" Christians in Corinth?

* **Why does** Paul spends so much time and ink on this doctrine of the weaker brother in 1Cor and Romans?

* **Why doesn't** Paul just give these Christians (and us) a list of "dos and don'ts"?