

## Romans Chapter 14

Jan 21, 2026

**Chapter 14.** This is a most misunderstood and many times misused chapter of instruction. In this period there were many cultural clashes between Jews and their common practices and Gentiles and their common practices. Yet there is a moral principles in it all.

**Verses 1-4:** At the heart of this issue in this chapter was idol worship. Many Gentile religions had at their core of worship sacrificial foods placed upon the altars for their Gods. Even many Jews of that day were still sacrificing animals to God as in the Moses and Temple days. Therefore, it was a time of transition. The main transition God wanted was in the hearts of mankind. But the old ways lingered in the minds of many. Some could make the transition, and many could not. The main problem was how believers perceived and judged one another based on their choices.

**Verses 5-8:** Even today we still struggle with this dilemma. We have even created different denominations because of the effect. There are still religions that hold that some foods are unclean (i.e. Pork with Muslims). And some regard Christmas highly as Christ's Birth while others don't. But Paul says the key is in faith before God. But while there are many variations of things we do that God gives us the choice to decide, there is no decision to make on sin. Yet I knew a man that said to me it was a sin to drink coffee. He believed it. I didn't. In such a case, my love for him impaled me to abstain from coffee before him. Not that he was right, but because he was weak. Hypocrite? Or Considerate?

**Verses 9-12:** Surely God will judge each and every person for the deeds performed in the body. Yet it is the Blood of Christ that washes away our sins. The question and quest is to seek righteousness. As the spirit leads and guides, He will take us into all Truth.

**Verses 13-18:** This chapter is about food and drink. But many apply this principle to all facets of the faith and even cross the line as to certain sins. But in Christian community God charges us to watch one for another. What is the difference in medical marijuana and recreational marijuana? Or alcohol, or food, or drugs, or therapy? Where do we cross the line? Is it a matter of conscious or faith? Then there is also a group dynamic that some things are okay in the group and not okay as an individual.

**Verses 19-21:** The key according to Paul is to seek peace. How can two walk together unless they be of one accord? Paul even said that "I will be all things to all people that I may gain the few. Yet he never meant he would cross the line of sin to gain any to his cause. Neither did Jesus. But People are to be more important to us than things that give us pleasure.

**Verses 22-23:** Our faith is to be lived not advertised. A person can literally sell a product for money or profit and not even like it themselves. So, we are charged to walk before God in our hearts and not in public as advertisements.