

# THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.  
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

## Romans 14:13-23

Media Reference Number SMX-1171

Sunday August 31, 2025

### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## IN HOT PURSUIT

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology  
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

### SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Spiritual Worship, Godly Service, Dedication, Devotion, Sacrifice, The Will of God.**

### Romans 14:13-23

Therefore, let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way. **14** I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. **15** Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died. **16** Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; **17** for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. **18** For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men. **19** Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another. **20** Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are pure, but it is evil for the man who eats with offense. **21** It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak. **22** Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. **23** But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

## A Hybrid Introduction to the Text

Verses 13 to 16 being the summation of what has already been studied – serves as a bridge to what the Apostle Paul is about to lead us into.

## Using Verse 13 – Paul Connects Verse 1-12 with this Preamble to His Argument;

### Romans 14:13

Therefore, let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.

# The Great “Therefores” of the Bible;

Like a Linguistically Glue, A Theological Bond that Welds Us to  
What has Been Previously Stated.

**Resolve** grk: mallon  
all the more. to go beyond, to be **extravagant** with this.

**Stumbling** grk: proskomma  
to set up or to create a trip hazard, to make an occasion of stumbling,  
to put an obstacle on a path.

**Fall** grk: skandalon  
to bait a trap, to pressure or to coerce someone into doing what they believe to be  
wrong. (“I knew I should not have done that”)

## The conclusion is this...

Watch out where you step, Make sure your foot is following in His steps.  
Putting your foot down where His was.

### Psalm 63:8

My soul follows close behind You;  
Your right hand upholds me.

(My soul followeth hard after thee. – KJV)

### Isaiah 41:10

Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I  
will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

As those who name the Name of Jesus Christ;  
We are very Aware that How we step & Where we Step leaves a trail of footsteps – footsteps  
of Evidence, evidence of faith that others will follow.  
- me

### Romans 12:4-5

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same  
function, **5** so we, being many, are one body in Christ,  
and individually members of one another.

# IN HOT PURSUIT

1.) Of A Working Love

vs. 14-15

## IN HOT PURSUIT Of a Working Love

1a.) Is Having A Clean Conscience

vs. 14

### Romans 14:14

**14** I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean

Convinced grk: peitho;  
confident, certain, made aware of, have come to know, fully persuaded.

### 1 Timothy 4:1-4

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, **2** speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, **3** forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. **4** For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; **5** for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

Having a clean or cleared conscience before God and man

“A clear conscience is often understood as that inner sense of right and wrong, aligning one’s behavior and intentions with moral and divine standards. There is a consistent thread throughout Scripture that shows conscience is a God-given faculty. This observable reality of man’s struggle with what is right and wrong is one of the most powerful evidences of man having been created by the ultimate morality which is God Himself.”

- Albert Barnes

American Theologian, Pastor & Abolitionist.  
1798 - 1870

### Romans 2:14-15

For when Gentiles (a non-Jews), who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, **15** who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)

## IN HOT PURSUIT Of a Working Love

1b.) Is Having The Right Priority

vs. 15

Verse 15

**15** Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died.

**Remembering that:** The first century Christians were Jews. Later, those Born Again, Jews preached Jesus Christ from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and out to the other most parts of the earth. With their success at evangelism, more and more Gentiles in great numbers began populating the church.

If we fix our eyes and affection upon Jesus, we will quickly see Him elevated to His rightful place of honor in the church.

### Acts 2:1-14a

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

**5** And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. **6** And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. **7** Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? **8** And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? **9** Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, **10** Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,

**11** Cretans and Arabs - we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." **12** So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" **13** Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine." **14** But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you,

Born Again Jewish Believers Being Sent Out into The World

## IN HOT PURSUIT

2.) Of The Kingdom of God

vs. 16-18

# IN HOT PURSUIT Of the Kingdom of God

2a.) Is All About Our Familial Witness

vs. 16

**Romans 14:16**

**16** Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil

UNDERSTANDING THIS; THIS IS NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS

**Matthew 10:36**

A man's enemies will be those of his own household.

Step #1:

Make sure you're firmly grounded upon the Word of God.

**1 Corinthians 10:29-30 NLT**

**It might not be a matter of conscience for you, but it is for the other person. For why should my freedom be limited by what someone else thinks? 30 If I can thank God for the food (or anything amoral) and enjoy it, why should I be condemned for eating it?**

Yet, we are not free to give people a reason to reject faith in Jesus Christ  
Just because you have the freedom (liberty) to live out your faith (convictions)

“To the beach or not to the beach – It's not question (for Lisa & I)”

**2 Corinthians 6:3-10**

We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. **4** But in all *things* we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, **5** in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; **6** by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, **7** by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, **8** by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; **9** as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; **10** as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Step #2:

Make sure you Understand that just the Name of Jesus Christ Himself  
will cause “Evil to be spoken of.” The reality of, the person of Jesus Christ  
generates hatred (which is always a manifestation of a spiritually irrational person)

## IN HOT PURSUIT Of the Kingdom of God

2b.) Is All About Real Christ-Like Living

vs. 17

### **Romans 14:17**

**17** for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking,  
but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

### **1 Corinthians 8:8**

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do  
not eat are we the worse.

### **Hebrews 13:9**

Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For *it is* good that the heart be  
established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied  
with them.

## The Forever Kingdom of God

### **2 Samuel 7:16**

“Your house (David) and your kingdom shall be established forever before you.  
Your throne shall be established forever.”

### **Psalms 45:6**

Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your  
kingdom.

### **Exodus 15:18**

“The LORD shall reign forever and ever.”

## How Is This Possible?

### **Isaiah 9:6-7**

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called  
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**7** Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end,  
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and  
justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

**Psalms 145:13**

Your kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion *endures* throughout all generations.

**Isaiah 62:11**

Indeed the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the world: "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Surely your salvation is coming; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him.' "

**Zechariah 9:9**

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.

**Matthew 21:5**

"Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

**THE ANCIENT EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL PROOFED THIS.**

**THE PRESENT EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL PROOFS THIS.**

**THE FOREVER EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL WILL PROVE THIS.**

**Daniel 4:3**

(the Hebrew prophet)

How great *are* His signs, and how mighty His wonders! His kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion *is* from generation to generation.

**Genesis 12:1-3,7**

Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. **2** I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." **7** Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

**Genesis 22:17**

Blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. **18** In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

**Romans 11:1**

I say then, has God cast away His people (Israel)? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin.

THY KINGDOM CAME (In Christ) & THY KINGDOM COME (In Spirit) & THY KINGDOM IS COMING (through Christ)

**Romans 14:17b**

but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Righteousness	grk: dikaiosune; being righteousness, doing righteously, doing justice, coming from what is right by position, of being righteous and practically - by doing righteousness
Peace	grk: eirene No longer at war with God thus now having the rest of God upon you.
Joy	grk: chara joy is a non-human attribute or characteristic; joy is of an external source and must be provided.

These Three (3) are One, A United Trinity of Evidence, of Proof  
That the Real Christian has These in his or her possession.

**1 John 5:7 KJV**

**For there are three (3) that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit: and these three are one.**

**IN HOT PURSUIT  
Of the Kingdom of God**

**2c.) Is All About The Coming Glory**

**vs. 18**

**Romans 14:18**

**18** For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men

*End of Study*

Copyright Real Life with Jack Hibbs © Sunday, August 31, 2025, by Jack Hibbs

no unauthorized reproduction of this content or the rebroadcasting of this material is allowed by law without the expressed written consent of the author.

YT: If You Love Me, You'll Do This