



Christian Liberty (Part 3)

Romans 15:1-13

#20 in a series on Romans

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March 28, 2010

The Description Of Christian Liberty. March 14

The Dangers Of Christian Liberty. March 21

Theme: **Responsible Freedom Builds Community.**

The Duties Of Christian Liberty.

1. Duties of the strong.
 - a. Bear the weaknesses of those without strength. (1; cf. 14:21)

 - b. Please others for their good. (1-4; cf. 14:19; 1 Corinthians 10:23-24, 31-33; Ephesians 6:5-6; Colossians 2:6-7)

 - c. The goal: unity that glorifies God. (5-6)

2. Duties of the entire church.
 - a. Accept one another. (7; cf. 14:1; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13; James 2:1-4)

 - b. The reason: Christ Jesus has accepted you. (7-12)

 - c. The goal: joy and peace in believing which overflows with hope. (13, 4)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. We have looked at the description, dangers and duties of Christian liberty. Read 14:1 - 15:13. Now list the main points God has impressed on you from this section about freedom. Next list any points where you have questions or struggles that you will continue to work through.

Tuesday. The strong in faith have specific duties with respect to their use of freedom and others. How does one bear the weaknesses of those without strength? Can you think of examples of this being done. How about examples where it should have been (or should be) done, but wasn't? What do verses 1-2 mean to you in personal terms, in your relationships, when it directs us to not (just) please ourselves but please others for their good? What should this look like?

Wednesday. The section addressed to the strong in faith concludes in verses 5-6 with a prayer. Why do you think Paul noted here that God gives perseverance and encouragement? This prayer shows liberty and community. What does being "of the same mind" and "with one accord" mean? What is the purpose of this unity?

Thursday. In verse 7 Paul turns to all the church—the strong and weak in faith. He restates the direction that opened this section—accept one another (15:7; 14:1). Review 14:1-12 to refresh your mind on what this means.

Why do you think Paul devotes the majority of verses 7-13 citing the Old Testament? Verse 13 closes this section with an emphasis on hope (see also 15:4). Why are "joy and peace in believing" critical to hope?

Friday–Saturday. Today is Good Friday. Keep Christ's sacrifice in your mind throughout the day, not just in our service this morning. On Sunday we will celebrate Christ's resurrection .

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