

MARCH 20 , 2022 – LOVE ONE ANOTHER SERIES

DON'T JUDGE ONE ANOTHER BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP

ONCE, AGAIN, WE BEGAN WITH A BRIEF REFERENCE TO THE BASIS FOR THIS STUDY AS FOUND IN THE LAST SUPPER AS RECORDED IN JOHN 13 – 17. WE BEGIN WITH JESUS' EXAMPLE OF HUMILITY AS FOUND IN THE WASHING OF THE FEET OF HIS FRIENDS, MOVES TO HIS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE IS GOING AWAY AND YET IS THE WAY TO THE FATHER, THE COMMAND TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AND CONCLUDES WITH HIS MAJESTIC PRAYER ASKING THE FATHER TO GIVE HIS FOLLOWERS UNITY AND ONENESS.

THIS WEEK – A LOOK AT TWO ADDITIONAL SUCH PASSAGES AND ROMANS 14

THIS WEEK WE LOOKED AT THETWO ADDITIONAL MENTIONS OF “LOVE ONE ANOTHER”, THIS TIME WRITTEN BY PAUL IN ROMANS 14. THESE TWO PASSAGES BEGIN OUR DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRACTICAL ELEMENTS OF LOVING ONE ANOTHER, SPECIFICALLY RELATING TO WITHHOLDING JUDGMENT OF ONE ANOTHER AND RATHER PARTICIPATING IN ACTS INTENDED TO BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP

ROMANS 14:13 “Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother”

CONTEXT

1. PRACTICAL LIVING IN ROMANS
2. IT'S ABOUT CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY
3. HAVE REGARD FOR WEAKER CHRISTIANS
4. DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ANY FELLOW CHRISTIAN
5. STRENGTHEN OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY

HERE WE FIND THE APOSTLE PAUL, THROUGHOUT ROMANS 14, ADDRESSING A SPECIFIC MATTER IN REGARDS TO LOVING ONE ANOTHER. HE EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND THE NEED TO HAVE TOTALL REGARD FOR WEAKER CHRISTIANS. WE MUST AVOID LOOKING DOWN ON FELLOW CHRISTIANS WHO MAY NOT ACT AS WE DO. CONVERSELY, WE MUST MAXIMIZE OUR EFFORTS TO STRENGHTEN OTHERS IN COMMUNITY.

RON THEN LED US IN AN INDEPTH VIEW OF THE TWO VERSES IN THE CONTEST OF THE ENTIRE 14TH CHAPTER OF ROMANS AND LOVING ONE ANOTHER USING THE FOLLOWING OUTLINE:

HERE WE FIND THE APOSTLE PAUL IN CORINTH IN ABOUT 57 AD AND WRITING TO HIS FRIENDS IN ROME. THE FIRST 11 CHAPTERS OF THE BOOK ARE LARGELY DOCTRINAL AND WRITTEN TO EDUCATE THE BELIEVERS IN THE FAITH. THE FOLLOWING CHAPTERS ARE ABOUT RIGHTEOUSNESS OR “HOW THAN SHALL WE LIVE?” SOME IMPORTANT TRUTHS FROM THE BOOK ARE AS FOLLOW:

Romans 14—A Chiastic Overview

1-5 are the background. Two opposing groups: To eat or not to eat. To observe certain days or not to observe.

One group judges others. The other looks at others with contempt.

Let each man be *fully convinced* in his own mind. Vs. 5

We shall all stand before the Judgment Seat of God and *each shall give an account*. Vs. 12 So don't judge. Vs. 13

II. Determine this: *not to put a stumbling block or obstacle* in a brother's way. Vs. 13

Nothing is unclean in itself but it is unclean to him who thinks it is. Vs. 14

Do not destroy with your food him for whom Christ died. Walk according to love. Vs. 15

III. Let us *pursue* the things which make for *peace* and *building up* one another. Vs 19

Do not tear down the work of God for the sake of food. Vs. 20

All things are clean, but they are evil for the man who eats and gives offence. Vs. 20

II. It's *good not to* eat meat or drink wine or to *do anything by which your brother stumbles*. Vs. 21

Have your faith as your own conviction before God. *Happy is he who does not condemn himself* in what he approves. Vs. 22

1. Whatever is not from faith is sin Vs 23

TRUTHS

1. ALL HAVE AND DO SIN (ROM 3:23)
2. TRUE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER OVERLOOKS FAULTS
3. GOD DOES NOT SEE MY SIN (ROM 4:7)
4. JUDGED BY THE SAME JUDGEMENT (MATT 7:1)
LOOK THROUGH A HEART OF LOVE
ELIMINATE HYPOCRISY IN OUR OWN HEART
BE QUICK TO ENCOURAGE, NOT TO CRITICIZE
PRAISE GOD FOR OTHER BELIEVERS

BUD REMINDED US THAT WE SHALL ALL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF OURSELVES

ROMANS 14:19 "Let us pursue the things which make for peace and building up one another".

CONTEXT

1. CHAPTER 14 IS ALL ABOUT COMMUNITY
2. EMPHASIS ON DIFFERENT LEVELS OF MATURITY
3. DON'T CRITICIZE OR JUDGE, REACH OUT WITH HELP

RON REMINDED US THAT WE TEND TOWARDS ONE EXTREME OR THE OTHER. BOTH ARE NECESSARY

HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?

1. LOVE ONE ANOTHER
2. HAPPY IS HE WHO DOES NOT CONDEMN HIMSELF -- VS 22
3. DETERMINE FOR YOURSELF WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG
4. REACH OUT TO WEAKER CHRISTIANS
5. LOVE ONE ANOTHER

PRAYER

NEXT WEEK -- BEAR WITH ONE ANOTHER

GALATIAN 6:2

COLOSSIANS 3:13