

Romans # 182

“The Strong Thrive and
the Weak Survive”

Romans 14:1-4

Weak believers reject biblical truth, accepting cheap substitutes, so their standards are not based on the Word but on their backgrounds, environment, academic training or objects they admire; so they accept the standards of whomever they admire.

Without the Word, differences of opinion produce strife and division but with biblical truth applied, these differences are tolerated.

Weak believers are rebelliously emotional, living by prejudice and their own ethics rather than biblical truth; they are strong in their ideas but weak in truth.

The weak believer is not interested in the Word but he's arrogantly forceful about his personal opinions, experiences and prejudices; so through legalistic bullying, he tries to impose his false standards on others.

Strong believers are commanded to accept weak believers with their opinions without biblical truth behind them, emphasizing non-essentials instead of essentials and being flexible on essentials.

The weak are to be received, not for purpose of judging their opinions but for purpose of continuing to learn biblical truth.

The strong do not receive the weak to bully them into changing by intruding on their privacy and the weak do not to reciprocate by judging the strong.

In the local church, both strong and weak believers live together to receive biblical truth for application; the only way to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.

The weak in Rome were distracted by their background standards, so the pastor must lead the congregation rather than weak or strong believers dominating them.

The weak believer is strong in his opinions and inflexible but being minus biblical truth, he's full of his own self-importance.

Agreement on life style, diet or the observation of holy days is not necessary for Christian fellowship and therefore, the RFHC is essential in our association with other believers as well as in living our life as unto the Lord, so disagreement on non-essentials should *never* destroy Christian fellowship.

The reason for daily Bible study is so that we begin to think like the royalty we are because until we think like royalty, we'll never act like the children of God, we are.

The worst disaster for a believer is to be royalty and not think like it.

The demonstration of greatness requires maintaining a system and that system is the RFHC, the Christian way of life and it's much more than morality.

The RFHC promotes right thinking leading to right motivation, resulting in right function.

To the unbeliever, there's distinction between living and dying but to the strong believer, dying is the most wonderful phase of living.

The RFHC begins with recognition of freedom and emphasizes the privacy of the priesthood and there must be great tolerance for the non-essentials.