

Romans # 183

“A Matter of Conscience”

Romans 14:5-6; 1st Corinthians 8:4-12

Remember: a right thing done in a right way is usually right and a strong believer can be doing a right thing in a right way but because the weak believer hasn't learned enough biblical truth to reprogram his standards in his conscience, he's going to do the right thing for the wrong reasons if he simply copies the strong, so that makes it wrong.

Our background and environment play a big part in our conscience standards and if we became believers later in life, it's a lengthy arduous process to re-train.

If a weak believer violates his conscience, Paul says that's wrong and not only that, it makes it easier in the future to rationalize and compromise his conscience.

If we believe something is wrong and we continually violate our conscience, we break down our standards and sear our conscience in the process.

Under the tyranny of the weak, all are weak but under the rulership of the justice of God, all are strong.

The difference between the strong and the weak is not only biblical truth in the soul and understanding the RFHC through the filling of the Holy Spirit but it's also recognizing that we can only be strong if we are living our own lives as unto the Lord, not unto one another.

We've not been left on earth after salvation to please men, we've been left behind to please the Lord.

Loving the brethren is the positive side of the RFHC, which in grace allows for the privacy of the priesthood, by living and letting live and respecting God's righteousness in other believers.

Sunday, the first day of the week is set aside as a special assembly day in the Church Age but it's actually no holier than any other day the Lord has given to us.

As with many issues, a controversy over the observation of special days existed and will exist until the Rapture but it's not about who's right and who's wrong but who's weak and who's strong.

Remember; the weak believer is not wrong for his convictions, he's wrong in projecting them on others.

Controversies over taboos and legalistic matters can't be resolved apart from knowledge of the Word and no one can change the mind of a legalistic and no one should; the Word has to do it.

Growing up spiritually requires patience and tolerance, so the Word remains the issue, not us.

The weak believer will never become strong through false standards but only as his false standards are revealed and corrected by the Word he has learned, will he become strong.