

Romans # 187

“Once again, it’s the Mind
of Christ”

Romans 15:1-6

Three kinds of believers exist in the weak camp and each has its own false-standards:

- 1) Humble, positive toward biblical truth, under a qualified pastor-teacher but has not yet not advanced very far, so he’s easily influenced by others’ opinions yet he’s receptive to correction
- 2) Arrogant, negative toward biblical truth and will not advance too far in the Christian life and he’s not receptive to correction
- 3) Judgmental, Pharisaic or legalistic with strong works-oriented convictions and definitely not receptive to correction

While toleration is required for the weak who are positive toward the Word, quite often, separation is the divine order regarding the weak who are negative.

The strong believer, with maximum biblical truth in his soul is spiritually mature, using the RFHC, rightly dividing the Word of truth and understanding personal and impersonal love, he clearly knows the difference between the essentials and non-essentials of the Christian life.

The strong doesn’t follow anyone else’s pattern because he has the inner power of the Word of God to meet every situation in any circumstance.

God’s blessings to strong believers include undeserved suffering, which demonstrates the Word in his soul and his stabilized personality.

Advancement in our priesthood and the production of our ambassadorship is a divine order.

And if this advancement and production are going to become our operational advance to maturity under our priesthood and ambassadorship then there must be the team concept of picking up lagging weak believers.

The self-consciousness of the strong believer makes him aware that he is a strong mature believer; an honest accurate evaluation of his own life in light of the Word of God which he understands.

The more we advance in Christian life, the greater our responsibility becomes to other believers.

Not pleasing ourselves is mature behavior in being so aware of the problems, difficulties and heartaches of those around us that we’re flexible enough not to offend them but rather to make an issue out of the Word of God.

Maximum impersonal love fulfils the strong’s RFHC duty to the weak because the strong operates on his own standards of biblical truth where he develops a sensitivity toward the feelings of others.

We lose every time we fail to accommodate ourselves to positive weak believers and tolerate their false standards.

Impersonal love always emphasizes the standards of the one doing the loving and assigns no merit to the object.

The more we progress in Christian life, the greater becomes our sense of responsibility to those around us.

Maturity is occupation with Jesus Christ and having the mind of Christ is becoming thoughtful of others and making occasional sacrifices.

Momentum plus motivation equals advance and we cannot advance to maturity without facing areas of Scripture where we're not stimulated or even interested but we must be persevering because when it's our time to face disaster or catastrophe, we'll never succeed without perseverance first.

We must have perseverance to have comfort and it's not just a verse or promise that we need; it's the compound structure of truth in our souls so we will stabilize in disaster.

God who is comfort and encouragement transmits these qualities to us through biblical truth which must be transferred from the page of Scripture to our minds where endurance and encouragement become our new mental attitude.

Our attitude toward the Word of God determines whether we're advancing or retreating in the Christian life and if we're positive, we understand the RFHC's command for impersonal love and respect for the privacy of others; knowing the difference between the essentials and non-essentials or when to be flexible or inflexible which is the basis for the freedom for every believer to advance spiritually.

There can be no advance unless in the local church, the family of God is tolerated where our privacy is respected and we're loved impersonally, so the Word of God is the main issue in our lives.

None of us is above or below anyone else; we are all royal priests with privacy to live our lives as unto the Lord and gain momentum from our thinking to advance to maturity, so that TLJC is glorified.