

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

"BEING A RESTORED HUMAN"



"RESET FOR THE GREAT TIMEOUT" Part 6: "THE RULE OF LIBERTY" ROMANS 14:1-23 AND SELECTED SCRIPTURES

- I. RECEIVING YOUR BROTHER WITH HIS DIFFERENCES 14:1-6
 - A. To receive him as you have been received by Christ
 - B. Assumed written to someone who is strong in the faith: one who has received fully the work of Christ in every area of his life
 - 1. Identifying a weak-in-the-faith brother limits his freedom because he has not understood the full implications of what Christ has done for him
 - 2. Identifying issues about which one may disagree, i.e. eating foods, observing days (<u>sanctification</u> not <u>justification</u> issues) vv. 2-6
 - C. Receive him but not to judge him because of his reasonings v. 1
 - 1. Criticizing to prove him wrong and, of course, to prove you as right!
 - 2. <u>Reasoning</u>: how we reach conclusions home, folklore, experience, trying to explain the difficult, resolution to inner conflict, working with only part of the facts
 - D. Reaching sound conclusions; being convinced v. 5
 - 1. Avoid all violations commands, principles examples
 - 2. Gather wisdom from the Word; Abide in Christ



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- II. UNDERSTANDING YOUR BROTHER AS CHRIST'S SERVANT vv. 4, 7-12
 - A. Christ has saved and received you both. Each of you are His servants <u>equally</u>
 - B. You each are responsible to Him only for your life
 - C. You both live for and die for the Lord Jesus Christ
 - D. You both will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ for what YOU alone have done and NOT for anyone else
 - E. It is therefore <u>illegal</u> for you to judge one another

III. LOVING YOUR BROTHER AND LIVING FREE 13-23

- A. Freedom is the <u>natural</u> state of man; bondage is discipline or a course correction; being in bondage or putting someone else in bondage is wrong
- B. Using freedom to <u>serve</u>, just like Christ
- C. <u>Discipline</u> equals freedom; self-government reduces the need for impositions of rules on your life
 - 1. <u>Discipline</u> your body's lusts and appetites
 - 2. <u>Discipline</u> yourself with love for your brother
 - 3. <u>Discipline</u> yourself with self-imposed limits when called for
- D. You do not lose your freedom when you submit to your brother's weaknesses anymore than Christ did in submitting to Pilate or in washing the disciples' feet
- E. Seek things which make for peace; live by faith with joy in the Holy Spirit
- F. Do whatever you can by faith approve; but if in doubt, don't!



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