

**"Much Obligated"**

**Romans 15: 1 - 7**

**January 23, 2011**

**God Requires That His Children Help Grow Those Who Are Not As Mature, (vs. 1 - 7)3.**

**3. Every Believer Is Under Obligation To Welcome One Another In The Harmony Of Christ, (vs. 5 - 7)**

- The harmony of Christ must be founded on the scriptures, (vs. 5)
  - a. The scriptures are the revealed nature of God, (vs. 5a); *"knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. " (2 Peter 1:20-21)*
  - b. Obedience to the revealed nature of God will bring harmony, (vs. 5b); *"Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, " (Philippians 1:27)*
  - c. The harmony of believers will be in keeping with the person & work of Christ, (vs. 5c); *"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. " (Philippians 2:1-4)*
- The harmony of Christ will be in & through the glorifying of God, (vs. 6); *"For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the LORD and serve him with one accord." (Zephaniah 3:9)*
- The harmony of Christ is manifest in those who welcome because they are welcomed, (vs. 7); *"But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." " (John 6:36-40)*