

Romans 13:8-14

Romans 14:1-2

Romans Chapter 13 overview: This chapter discusses Christians and their service to God in relation to government (politics). This is a controversial chapter. It can be entitled "Christian Service and Responsibility."

Sidenote silly for election years:

This is the prayer a woman prayed for an elected leader she didn't like:

Psalm 109:8: Let his days be few; *And* let another take his office.

- 8 *Owe no man anything, save to love one another: for he that loveth his neighbor hath fulfilled the law.* You can't go through life without owing anything. Buying a house is a 15- or 30-year loan. Buying a car is 3- or 5-year loan. So don't get in a position where you can't pay back what you owe, to the best of your ability. If you can't pay back your debt, talk to the people and tell them why you can't and make every effort to make it right. This is also talking about little things like borrowing your neighbors' lawn mower or a cup of sugar. Take it back, and take it back better than how you got it. Take back 2 cups of sugar instead of one. Sharpen the lawn mower blades or fill it with gas. Fix up the rental property you are renting. The basic rule of Christianity is love, the Love of Christ.
- 9 *For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not covet, and if there be any other commandment, it is summed up in this word, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.* If you truly love others as you are supposed to under the law of Jesus Christ, you wouldn't commit any of these crimes.
- 10 *Love worketh no ill to his neighbor: love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.* Every law of Christ is based upon love. You should love one another as you love yourself.
- 11 *And this, knowing the season, that already it is time for you to awake out of sleep: for now is salvation nearer to us than when we first believed.* What kind of sleep? Spiritual sleep. Wake up folks! You're not in the dark anymore; you have God's word so wake up and live it. This is about Jesus Christ coming back and taking us to heaven and giving us our awards.
- 12 *The night is far spent, and the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.* Get rid of your old ways, the old things you used to do that are contrary to God's ways. None of us know how long we will live, and most of us are taken by surprise. So live the way God has taught you. Live by His word. That's why we study God's word, to learn how to live how God wants us to. The word of God feeds our spirit.
- 13 *Let us walk becomingly, as in the day; not in reveling and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and jealousy.* "Becomingly" means "honestly". Be honest in your business life, your personal life, and in all situations in which you find yourself. Stay away from nighttime drunkenness and nightclubbing. Get rid of that kind of life. Live like everyone can see you in the light.
- 14 *But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.* Don't give the flesh a chance to fulfill its desires. Stay away from those types of temptations because the flesh is weak. But study the word of God and live and learn, and the old ways of life won't even appeal to you anymore.

Romans 14:1-2

Romans Chapter 14 overview: This chapter discusses Christians and how we treat other people. It can be called the consideration chapter; consider others before you consider yourself. This chapter deals with Christians personal relationships with other Gentiles and Christians.

- 1 ¶ *But him that is weak in faith receive ye, yet not for decision of scruples.* Those who are weak in faith are just new Christians. They haven't grown in the word of God yet.
- 2 *One man hath faith to eat all things: but he that is weak eateth herbs.* This is about your diet. You should eat everything except blood. Being a vegetarian is by personal choice, not God's rule.

Look at Genesis 9:1-4:

- 1 *And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.*
- 2 *And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every bird of the heavens; with all wherewith the ground teemeth, and all the fishes of the sea, into your hand are they delivered.* Before the flood, man did not eat meat.
- 3 *Every moving thing that liveth shall be food for you; as the green herb have I given you all.*
- 4 *But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.* After the flood, man has permission to eat everything except BLOOD. You can eat everything and anything else that doesn't poison you.

I Timothy 4:1-4:

- 1 *But the Spirit saith expressly, that in later times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons,*
- 2 *through the hypocrisy of men that speak lies, branded in their own conscience as with a hot iron;*
- 3 *forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by them that believe and know the truth.*
- 4 **For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, if it be received with thanksgiving:** God says it's ok for you to eat meat.