

Adult Sunday School Lesson
Nassau Bay Baptist Church
May 31, 2020

As you watch and listen to the video, please feel free to pause the video for any reason, including to discuss something with others, to take time to look up a verse or passage, or to take a break. Remember, you also are able to go back and to repeat any part.

Read Romans 14:19-15:7.

We should pursue (chase) _____ and _____.

We chase (actively) things of peace with one another and chase after things that build up one another.

But what sort of peace? What sort of building up? _____

We are a spiritual people. We deal with eternal matters.

Two key words in Romans 14: _____ and _____.

To “stumble” or to be a “stumbling block” is “to knowingly furnish someone an occasion to sin.”

To “grieve” or to be “grieved” (v 15) is the Greek word *lupeo*, which refers to “severe sorrow” or “deep emotional pain.”

Both of these words represent something that is much greater than a disagreement or a matter of preference.

In verse 15, Paul argues that we should not “destroy the one for whom Christ died.” The Greek word for “destroy” here, *apollumi*, means “to utterly destroy, to cancel out, to cause to be lost (utterly perish) by experiencing a miserable end.”

A stumbling block is something that could well lead to the destruction, the utter loss, the cancellation of the faith (*not “of the salvation”*) of a brother or sister in Christ. The total loss of faith of fellow believer is not worth getting a good deal on roast beef!

Yet this does not apply to every disagreement or even every offense. Jesus gave us the plan in Matthew 18:15-17 for offenses between brothers.

Talk _____ the brother, not _____ the brother.

Again, in Galatians 6:1, we are commanded to talk to our brothers and sisters who offend, who come short of the glory of God.

In Galatians 6:2, we read, “Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.” Interestingly, the same word translated “Bear” here is translated “Bear” in Romans 15:1. It means “to take up, to carry.”

We often think this means physical burdens or emotional burdens, and certainly Christians are implored to take up these things with our brothers and sisters, but in both Galatians and in Romans 15, the context is one of faith and of buttressing that faith.

Galatians

Restore the one who trespasses . . . (and) . . . Bear one another’s burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ (the law of love).

Romans

End of 14:23, “for whatever is not from faith is sin.” Romans 15:1, “. . . bear with the weaknesses of the weak (and not please ourselves). Let each of us please (love) his neighbor for his good (for his righteousness and holiness).

Paraphrase: While disagreements and offenses will happen among us, do not be willing to utterly destroy the faith of a brother over lesser matters. Watch for sin in one another, go and talk to one another about what we see, and the stronger one at the moment is to carry the one who is missing the mark.

In this way, we can ‘take one another to ourselves, just as Christ took us to Himself.’ (v 7) And we can “with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (v 6)

Now Read Romans 16:25-27

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

Now to Him—to _____. But who is this God?

One who is able to make you fast, to establish you

According to Paul’s gospel—our sin, His death, burial, resurrection in our stead . . .

And according to the preaching of Jesus Christ—See the gospels!

According to the revelation of the mystery—that the Messiah would die for His people (Israel) and also for all who were not considered to be His people

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Mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest—Jesus has come!!

And by the prophetic Scriptures—that foretold Christ—made known to all nations

According to the commandment of the Everlasting God—by grace in love

Unto obedience of faith—Faith as an action word of obedience; the goal of God's great love

Back to the beginning . . .

Now to Him/God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Truth!