





- **Romans 14:5-23**

- **Principles for Today** (Note: we will look at Sabbath in depth next week, fulfillment & practice of Passover and Day of Atonement at the end of February)

- **John Piper on Romans 14:4**

So here's the sum of the matter: Paul is dealing with disagreements over non-essential matters like days and food. Instead of saying, "Don't sweat the small stuff," or "Lighten up," he says, "Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind." He believes people with conviction and decisiveness are better risks than the other kind.

So how does he handle the risk of conflict when lots of people are "fully convinced" that their way is not sinful, and honors God, and is the best way they can see for themselves in this situation?

**Step 1: True Christians on Both Sides of These Issues Are Glorifying God in What They Do**

**Step 2: Things as Opposite as Eating/Not Eating and Death/Life Can Both Honor the Lord**

**Step 3: Through the Resurrection of Christ, Both the Living and the Dead Can Show the Infinite Value of His Lordship**

He boldly asserts that opposite behaviors—eating and not eating—can both show the worth of Christ. To support that radical statement he says its true of the ultimate condition of opposites: life and death. And to support that radical statement he goes to the greatest event in history: "For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living."

The living display the infinite worth of his lordship by valuing him in all his good gifts. The dead display the infinite value of his lordship by valuing him above all his gifts when they are taken away.

- Therefore, I do not say to you, "Lighten up." Or, "Don't sweat the small stuff." Rather I say, "Stand in awe of the risen Christ who will get his glory from the living and from the dead and from the eaters and the abstainers and from the day-keepers and the non-day-keepers. Stand in awe of Jesus Christ. **And whatever you do, whether you eat or whether you drink, do all to the glory of Christ** (1 Corinthians 10:31).

## Holiday and Holy Day Resources

### OT Feasts and Festivals - Overviews / General Resources

Bristol Works. (2008). *Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps and Timelines*. Torrance, CA: Rose Publishing, Inc.

{See also Rose Publishing's "*Feasts & Holidays of the Bible*" and "*Christ in the Passover*" pamphlets, wall charts, and Powerpoint presentations}

Walton, John H. (1994). *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament*. Nashville, TN: Tomas Nelson Publishers.

Nelson. (1993). *Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps & Charts*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

### OT Feasts and Festivals - Books

Conner, Kevin. (1980). *Feasts of Israel*. Portland, OR: City Christian Publishing.

Howard, Kevin and Rosenthal, Marvin. (1997). *The Feasts of the Lord*. Nashville, TN: Tomas Nelson Publishers.

Kasdan, Barney. (1993). *God's Appointed Times*. Messianic Jewish Publishers.

Rosen, Ceil and Moishe. (2006). *Christ in the Passover*. Moody Publishers.

### Advent / Christmas Resources

Bartholomew, Craig G. & Goheen, Michael W. (2004). *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Bickel, Mark. (2009). Crossroads talks on "**Longing for Hope**", "**Longing for Joy**", "**Longing for Love**", "**Longing for Peace**", "**Christ Fulfills Our Longings**", "**Longing for Heaven while Living on Earth**". Wallingford, PA: web: [gracebfc.org/crossroads](http://gracebfc.org/crossroads)

Misc small devotional guides and websites on Advent. See Mark for copies.

### Lent / Easter Resources & Atonement Books

Boice, James Montgomery and Ryken, Philip Graham. (1999). *The Heart of the Cross*. Wheaton, IL: Crossways Books.

Card, Michael. (2000). *A Violent Grace*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers.

Jeffery, Steve and Ovey, Michael and Sach, Andrew. (2007). *Pierced For Our Transgressions: Rediscovering the Glory of Penal Substitution*. Wheaton, IL: Crossways Books.

Mahaney, C.J. (2002). *The Cross Centered Life: Keeping the Gospel the Main Thing*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers.

Sproul, R.C. (2007). *The Truth of the Cross*. Orlando, FL: Reformation Trust Publishing.

Stott, John R.W. (1986). *The Cross of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.