

Romans 14:1-12 – A church shaped by Grace – Gospel welcome**A mixed mob****Dealing with the differences**

Romans 14:1, fully welcome each other with open arms.

Warning # 1

Very different with false teaching

The differences mentioned**Difference # 1**

... the food that they eat

Difference # 2

Romans 14:5 ... one day is more sacred than another

What should they do to resolve them?

v 6-8, get on with serving God and give thanks to him

Warning #2

Do not adjust their position based on the peer pressure

v 5-6

v 12

Do not judge

For disputable matters only

For non disputable matters - 1 Cor 5:12-13, “What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside. God will judge those outside. Expel the wicked man from among you”

Differences that really do matter

Any issue that seeks to change the gospel, is a difference that does matter.

Disputable matters for us today

...might well get messy

... the same issue can become important based on whether someone is making it a gospel issue.

Drinking alcohol, dancing, smoking, playing cards, tattoo's, wearing wedding rings or make up, going to the theatre or movies, dressing fashionable and I am not saying modestly here for the bible speak about dressing modestly, eating fish on Fridays, different music styles we listen to, what is the right God given bible translation, playing competitive sports, how much water you are baptised in.

Could be disputable?

How might it affect the gospel?

What does God's word actually have to say about this issue?

How welcoming are we?