## ROMANS 1:16

"I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile."

## UNASHAMED: STUMBLING BLOCKS

Romans 14:1-18

VSS. 1-4

"Accept him whose faith is weak" See also 1 Cor. 8
A weak Gentile couldn't ignore prior idolatry

"without passing judgment" Matt. 7:1-5, 16

Being 'judge, jury and executioner' is distinguished from discerning right from wrong

"on disputable matters"

"The strong hold the weak in contempt as legalistic and self-righteous; the weak judge the strong to be irresponsible at best and perhaps depraved."

- MacArthur

At the end of the day, our brother is God's servant and so we can let the matter to God.

Again 'disputable matters' See Gal. 6:1

A weak Jewish believer –

can't lay aside OT rites and prohibitions

(Sabbath, special days)

Vs. 6b See also 1 Tim. 4:4-5

Everything we do is to be an offering to God

VSS. 9-12

Christ's death and resurrection settles the matter of who stands in judgment. It's not one of us.

Every believer will appear before the judgment seat of Christ and give an account of HIMSELF/HERSELF See also 1 Cor. 3:13-15; 4:1-5; 2 Cor. 5:10

## SHIFTING FOCUS VSS. 13-18

Watch your own conduct more closely (Again, Matt 7)

Don't lay stumbling blocks

Vs. 14 "for him it is unclean" Don't violate conscience nor encourage someone else to

Vs. 15 Note the heart issue here

Vs. 16 We represent Christ. Be careful not to abuse our freedom in Him

Vss. 17-18 Give heed to the deeper matters of the faith