

The Book of 2 Corinthians

2 Corinthians 5:10

Session 51: The Judgment Seat of Christ, pt. 5

Someone who is “weak in the faith” does not yet have a full knowledge, and therefore they still give regard to things of religious ritual and ceremony. It may be that they have come out of some religion, which employs these devices. And while they may have let go of some, there are others they have not yet learned how to think about according to the doctrine.

One is considered “weak in the faith” who is not yet skilled in the exercise of grace. They are not yet living out of grace, but they may still look to some rule of practice from their past. Old standards and convictions that are not from God’s word have a way of hanging on until we mature past them.

One is “weak in the faith” when he comes before the Lord with an unbalanced view of himself before God. For example, he doesn’t doubt God’s ability to do one thing or another, but he is unsure of His willingness to do it. His doubt rests on his unworthiness, not God’s faithfulness. This uncertainty reveals his weakness in the faith.

One is “weak in the faith” who does not yet understand the fundamental doctrines. They are childlike in their understanding in that they have great affection for God, but little knowledge; they have much zeal but are unable to discern truth from error; they are not yet able to make wise judgment decisions as sons. In the words of Paul, they are still on milk doctrine because “meat” doctrine is too much for them.

One is “weak in the faith” when they are “tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine.” These people listen to a charismatic preacher on TV, and spend the next days repeating what they heard as though it is the truth. Then after attending a grace church, they spend the next days repeating doctrine that contradicts what they heard on TV. As this cycle continues, it is an indication of a weakness in the faith.

One is “weak in the faith” who does not understand his liberty in Christ, especially as it sets him free from the ceremonial law.

One who is “weak in the faith” is someone who is weak in the exercise of grace; however, this person is just as much the servant of the Lord, and a son, as those who are mature in the faith. It is important that we do not relegate them to a second-class status, or put a stumblingblock in their way by being a tutor and governor to them, forcing them to conform to our behavior before the doctrine has done its work in them.

How important is this to God? Important enough that it will come up at the judgment seat of Christ.

Look at the following verses.

Romans 14:4 Who art thou that judgest another man’s servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? **for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.**

Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

¹³ Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in *his* brother’s way.

The unconditional love, the way we are to value and esteem every member is no light matter to God. That is a third issue we will face at the judgment seat of Christ.

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The Most Important Decision