

Lesson VI.

ABSTINENCE FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS November 9, 1913
—WORLD'S TEMPERANCE SUNDAY

Romans 14 : 7-21.—Memory Verses, 7, 8.

Golden Text—It is good not to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor to do anything whereby thy brother stumbleth.—Romans 14 : 21 (Rev. Ver.).



7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord ; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord ; whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

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

11 For it is written. As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

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 stumbling-block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Je'sus, that *there is* nothing unclean of itself : but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him *it is* unclean.

15 But if thy brother be grieved with *thy* meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died.

16 Let not then your good be evil spoken of :

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink ; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

20 For meat destroy not the work of God, All things indeed *are* pure ; but *it is* evil for that man who eateth with offence.

21 *It is* good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor *any thing* whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

THE LESSON RETOLD

To-day's Lesson is from a letter which the apostle Paul, while he was on one of his missionary journeys, wrote to the Christians living in the great and wicked city of Rome. In this letter he spoke of Jesus as the Lord, both of those Christians who had died and gone to heaven, and of those who were still living on the earth.

At the last day, Paul said, each one would have to stand before Jesus and give an account of how he himself had lived. So, instead of criticizing and judging others, Christians ought to ask themselves if they were living exactly as they should.

Now, it was a custom with the heathen first to offer food to idols and then sell it in the common market place. Many of the Jewish Christians thought it wrong to buy and eat this food, while others thought there was no harm in doing so.

But Paul said that even those who thought there was no harm in using the food should not eat it if their example was likely to lead some one else to do what he thought was wrong. Christians should be so filled with love to all men, that they would be willing to deny themselves even those things which they thought quite right for the sake of