Pursuing the Things Which Make for Peace
Romans 14:19

Introduction:
A. Absolute peace in this world will not happen (Matt. 10:34).
   1. Always conflict between right and wrong.
   2. Always conflict between Christians and the world.
   3. Neither expect nor desire peace with world.
B. The peace of our text is a modified peace.
   1. It is peace among Christians — addressed to Christians.
   2. It is peace tied to edification, just peace — period (cf. Acts 9:31).
C. Let’s note three important things that make for peace among brethren:

Discussion:
I. Doctrinal Purity.
   B. Doctrinal and moral purity more important than peace (Jas. 3:17).
      1. Cannot peacefully co-exist with false doctrine (Gal. 2:5).
      2. Cannot peacefully co-exist with immoral behavior (1 Cor. 5).
II. Spiritual Maturity.
   A. Divisions at Corinth traced to spiritual immaturity (1 Cor. 3:1-4).
      1. Immature attitude toward teachers (v. 4; 1 Cor. 1:10-15).
      2. Possible immature attitude toward preaching (1 Cor. 2:1-5).
   B. Division often result of spiritual immaturity today.
      1. Formation of cliches and parties.
      2. Underdeveloped in “Christian graces” (cf. 2 Pet 1:5-7).
III. Accepting Diversity.
   A. Accept diversity of functions (1 Cor. 12:4-26).
   B. Accept diversity of personalities, backgrounds and customs.
   C. Accept some diversity of personal convictions (Rom. 14).
      1. These involved personal matters, not congregational.
      2. These thing involved morally right matters, not immorality.

Conclusion:
A. Perhaps other things could be cited, but these go a long way in making for peace.
B. Remember we must first be at peace with God, then pursue peace with others.