

Romans 13:10-14

10. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

11. And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

12. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

While We Wait #5 – High Time

Romans 13:10-14

We conclude our series - While We Wait

Our focus has been understanding the prophetic significance of the time in which we live, and the sufficiency of God's provision for us! God has a plan.

Today – unusual text, at least as it relates to the 2nd coming of Jesus.

In fact – very rarely preached unless it falls in expository series.

Yet – packed with truth for our today!!

Rome:

- The Empire of Iron (Daniel 2+).
- Seat of Political, Intellectual, Economic and Military power.
- Total dominance and control.

*****Yet, they should have suspected something when they received the unexplainable report from a distant territory:

The power of Rome couldn't keep a tomb secure; It was eerily null and void before a discarded stone and empty tomb!

The risen Savior now lived within a handful of believers of the new church at Rome.

Paul:

- Wrote to them to not only to introduce himself and encourage them, but to equip them!
- The truths learned and lived by 1st century believers eventually broke the power of Rome and prevailed over the kingdoms of this world!

Part of the truth He revealed is our truth – for us, for this day.

Our text – *"it is high time"*

I. The Profound Revelation.

God makes the profound – simple.

- Salvation

- **Service – Nowhere more succinct and profound than our passage!**

Magnitude. *Make it simple!*

The law – massive, all consuming

Fulfilled – Simple but profound; not easy.

Means: *“Love is the fulfilling of the law”*

Love in the last days – 2 particular references –

Jesus – Matthew 24:12 –

*And because iniquity shall abound, **the love of many shall wax cold.***

Paul – 2 Timothy 3 – Perilous Times

*4. Traitors, heady, highminded, **lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;***

5. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

II. The Personal Awareness.

Vs. 11 – *“And that...”*

- *“and that” – i.e. – “**therefore, for this cause**”*
- **The application of the announcement** – the continuing thought and it’s consequence!

A. Information – *Wise Up!*

*“knowing” - “*eido*” – Innate vs. experiential!*

*“the time” - “*Kairos*” - The significant segment of time and it’s impact!*

“now is our salvation nearer” –

A future event: Something is drawing near!

What?? I’m not saved already?

3 tenses of salvation!

- I have been saved)and always will be!)

- I am being saved.
- I will be finally and completely saved.

“salvation” in our text: Not trusting Christ and becoming His child!

“Than when we believed” –

- **“Believed”** – “pisteou” – “active faith”, “Believing in”, “trusting”.
Aorist Active Indicative - 1st Person Plural: **Something that happened at a point in time and is over,complete!**
 - aorist ἐπίστευσα (marking entrance into a state) -i.e. – **“I became a believer, a Christian”** (A. V. believed)

“night is far spent” –

“Advanced, spent, wax” –

2 Thessalonians 2:7 – **“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work”**

2 Timothy 3:13 - **But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.**

“the day is at hand”

Blessed hope! Our “salvation” – rescue!

1. Metaphorically: “the day” - That which belongs to Christ; Light!

2. Prophectically:

Matthew 24

36. But of **that day and hour** knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

37. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

Matthew 25:13 –

Watch therefore, for **ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.**

Luke 21:34 –

*And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and **so that day come upon you unawares.***

Ephesians 4:30 –

*And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are **sealed unto the day of redemption.***

Philippians 1:6

*Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you **will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:***

2 Thessalonians 2:2

*That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as **that the day of Christ is at hand.***

Hebrews 10:25 –

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but **exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.***

B. Inspiration: *Wake up!*

“now It is high time to awake out of sleep!”

“High time” –

A certain definite time or season

Of the seasons of the year, spring, summer, autumn, winter
the daytime

cf. Jeremiah 8:20

The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.

“awaken” - “egeirō”

Probably akin to the base of G58 (through **the idea of collecting one's faculties**);
to waken (transitively or intransitively), i.e. rouse awake,

“Sleep” –

- only used 6 times – **“hypnos”**

Vine - is **never used of death**. In five places in the NT it is used of physical "sleep;" in Rom 13:11, metaphorically, of a **slumbering state of soul, i.e., of spiritual conformity to the world, out of which believers are warned to awake.**

"awaken out of deep sleep"

- **Alistair Begg – *"We don't know we're asleep or have dozed off until we are roused or wake up!"***
- **It is not that God despises us when God turns the light on – it is because He loves us!!**

III. The Proper Response (Action)

Rouse to action! When we wake up, then...

- ***"Love"***
- ***"Let us..."***

A. Negatively – *Clean up!*

*****Charts, books, prophecy expert – *If our lives are not holy, we are not ready!***

Cf. Phil. 2:12-16 – *work out your salvation with fear and trembling...*

"cast off"

Rom 13:12, "let us cast off," (*aorist tense, denoting a definite act*).

Happens daily but the idea – Make a decision!

NOT: (DARKNESS)

"rioting"- "komos" –

Herodotus down; a revel, carousal, i. e. in the Greek writings properly, a nocturnal and riotous procession of half-drunken and frolicsome fellows who after supper parade through the streets with torches and music in honor of Bacchus or some other deity, and sing and play before the houses of their male and female friends; orgies; hence, used generally, of feasts and drinking-parties that are protracted till late at night and indulge in revelry; plural (revellings):

"Drunkenness" – "methe"

“chambering” – *“koitē”* – ***Sleeping around***

“wantoness” – “unbridled lust, excess”

*****SAME LIST:**

“strife” – *“eris”* - a quarrel, i.e. (by implication) wrangling:—***contention, debate, strife, variance.***

“envying” –

“zelos” - properly, heat, i.e. jealousy, as of a husband, or an enemy,

“malice”:—emulation, envy(-ing), fervent mind, indignation, jealousy, zeal.

B. Positively – ***Dress up!***

“Put on” –

“the armour of light” –

Not various pieces of armour – cf. Eph. 6

“tool or implement” for preparing a thing
weapon, instrument

“Our weapon is light!”

BE LIGHT!

“Let us ***walk as in the day***” – Phil. 2 -

“put on” – **The Lord Jesus Christ! Wear it.**

- Love Him and them!
- Live accordingly!

Wise up.

Wake up.

Clean up.

Dress Up!

- Not naked and ashamed at His return!
- Not filthy garments!
- But Jesus! Light!