

# ROMANS



# Romans 13:8-14

Debt, Love, and the End



# Our 3 Questions

## 1. What does the text say?

- Authorial intent to the intended audience.

## 2. What does the text mean?

- The timeless theological truth.

## 3. How does this apply today?

- What we ought to do with/because of this truth.

# Romans 13:8-14

**<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”**

# Romans 13:8-14

<sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

# Romans 13:8-14

**<sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.**

# Road Map

**Verse 8a – the debt of love**

**Verse 8b-10 – Love and the Law**

**Verse 11-14**

- **Knowing the time**
- **Wake up**
- **Get dressed**
- **Walk in the light**

**Application**

# Romans 13:8a

**<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other...**

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**Verse 7: Pay to all what is owed to them ...**

**What does Paul mean by this debt or obligation to love?**



# Debt of Love

**1:1 – Paul the slave**

**1:14-15 – Paul’s “obligation” to all**

**6:12-14, 16, 22 – We are slaves of God**

**8:12-14 – Debtors to the Spirit**

**12:1-2 – Presented to God**

**We commissioned by our Master to love others and now owe it to them.**

# **Romans 13:8b**

**for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.**

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**How does this text work with Romans 8:1-4? Or Romans 7:4-6?**

**Righteousness lived in response to righteousness received.**

# Romans 13:9-10

**<sup>9</sup> For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**

# Galatians 5:13-14

**<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”**

# Matthew 22:36-40

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

# Moral Duty in Layers

1. **Romans 12:1-2 – Present yourselves to God as living sacrifices.**
2. **12:9 – Let love be genuine**
  - **All other duty to others**
    - **Adultery**
    - **Stealing**
    - **Coveting**
    - **Taxes**
    - **...**

# **Moral Duty in Layers**

- 1. Do not strain out the gnat and swallow the camel.**
- 2. Understand why Paul feels the need to continue giving the law, if we already know the spirit of it.**

# Romans 13:11-14

**<sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.**



# Romans 13:11-14

**<sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.**

# **Romans 13:11-14**

**Three statements about the “time”**

- 1. Besides this you know the time...**
- 2. Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed**
- 3. The night is far gone; the day is at hand.**

# Romans 13:11-14

**This is the last major era of salvation history. The King's return is next.**

- Acts 2:17, 1 Corinthians 7:29, Galatians 4:3-5, Ephesians 1:3-10, 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Hebrews 1:1-2, 9:27-28, James 5:3, 1 John 2:18, 1 Peter 1:19-21, 2 Peter 3:3, Jude 17-19.

**Christ teaches us to wait with immanent expectation of His return.**

- **Luke 12:35-40 & Matthew 24:36-41**

**We have good reason for expectation...**

# 2 Timothy 3:1-5

<sup>1</sup> But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. <sup>2</sup> For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

# Matthew 24:23-27

**<sup>23</sup> Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup> See, I have told you beforehand.**

# Matthew 24:23-27

**<sup>26</sup> So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. <sup>27</sup> For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.**

# Revelation 6

There are 6 broken seals, each with their own meaning.

1. **White Horse – Conqueror**
2. **Red Horse – War**
3. **Black Horse – Depression/Recession**
4. **Pale Horse – Plague**
5. **A great number of martyrs**
6. **Natural disasters**

# Revelation 16

**There are 7 bowls of wrath.**

- 1. Sores – Plague**
- 2. Death of sea creatures**
- 3. Blood (poisoned) water**
- 4. Hotter sun and fires**
- 5. Darkness**
- 6. Evil is rallied together**
- 7. Tremendous natural disasters**



# Romans 13:11-14

**This is the last major era of salvation history. The King's return is next.**

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**Christ teaches us to wait with immanent expectation of His return.**

- **Luke 12:35-40 & Matthew 24:36-41**

**We have good reason for expectation...**

# **Romans 13:11-14**

**Paul gives three things in response to the “time” referenced.**

- 1. Wake up**
- 2. Get dressed**
- 3. Walk in the light**

# **Romans 13:11-14**

**Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from your sleep. For salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.**

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**Remaining awake is giving the primacy of your attention to that which is most pressingly important.**

# Romans 13:11-14

<sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

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**Actively expelling evil works.**

**Dressing for war.**

# Romans 13:11-14

<sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

# Romans 13:11-14

**Do not**

- **Orgies and drunkenness**
- **Sexual immorality and sensuality**
- **Quarreling and jealousy**
- **Make provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires**

# Romans 13:11-14

**Do**

- **Put on Christ**
  - **Ephesians 5:1-2**
  - **Colossians 3:5-14**
- **2 Timothy 4:1-8**

# **Romans 13:8-14**

**Leave no debt outstanding.**

**Love others.**

**Do this, understanding the time.**

**Wake up, get dressed, and walk  
with Christ.**



# Questions

**Did anything jump out to you from the text or sermon?**

**Do you ever find yourself doing what God says towards others out of pure duty and not affection?**

**If you knew tomorrow was the last day of your life, is there anything you would want to take care of before seeing the Lord?**

**The text speaks about two kinds of actions. Things we don't do and things we ought to do. Which one do you spend more time thinking about?**

**Is there an area that you want to focus more?**

**How can others hold you accountable to this?**