

"The Debt Of Love" and "Rise & Shine"
Romans 13:8-14

The Context of Romans 12-15

1. A call to consecrate ourselves unto God. Rom 12:1,2
2. Application: How we are to view ourselves. Rom 12:3-8.
3. Application: How we are to love others. Rom 12:9-16
4. Application: How we are to love our enemies. Rom 12:14,17-21
5. Application: How we are to view the state. Rom 13:1-7
6. Principle: Love & Law. Rom 13:8-14
7. Principle: Love & Liberty. Rom 14:1-15:13

The Permanent Obligation: Love. Rom 13:8a

1. The Command: Love! It is an unpaid debt
 - ◆ *Never leave your debts unpaid* (don't continue owing, pay your debts). Vs 7
 - ◆ *Do not continue owing anyone anything except the continuing debt of love.* Vs 8a
 - ◆ We can never say we have loved enough. It is an impossible debt to fulfill
2. Love is the reality of the faith. Proof that we know Him. Jn 13:34; I Jn 3:10-11,23; 4:7-12,20

The Standard Of Love: The Law. Rom 13:8b-10

1. Love is the *fullness* (πληρωω. 8:4. πληρωμα. Gal 4:4; Col 1:19) not *replacement* of the law.
 - ◆ Law is the *standard* of love. Jn 14:15; I Jn 2:5
 - ◆ Love is the *motive* of law-keeping. Jn 14:21
2. Faith works through love → Love lives out God's commands. I Jn 5:2; Gal 5:6
 - ◆ *Loveless* law-keeping is no good. Legalistic, sounding brass (I Cor 13:1-3)
 - ◆ *Lawless* love is no good. It is harmful, evil (I Jn 3:18).
3. Love does your neighbor *good & not wrong*. Lit. It *works no evil* because it is holy!
 - ◆ Love does not commit adultery -- It is sexually pure.
 - ◆ Love does not murder -- It preserves & cares for emotional, spiritual, & physical life
 - ◆ Love does not steal -- It works hard & gives to others.
 - ◆ Love does not covet -- It is grateful, content, & rejoices in the fortune of others

An Encouragement To Holy-Love: You Know The Time! Rom 13:11-12a.

1. Concept: In light of the *time* (this present age -- *kairos* not *kronos*) love with a holy-love.
 - ◆ We live in between this present evil age (Gal 1:4; Eph 5:16) & the age to come (Mt 12:32; Heb 6:5). His reign is *now & not yet!* An overlap
 - ◆ Which age do you bear the marks of?
2. Positively: Your salvation is nearer now than when you first believed. Rom 8:21-23
 - ◆ Your final salvation (I.E. glorification) is *nearer!* Your almost there!
 - ◆ Which life do you reflect (your old lost life or your upcoming holy life?)
3. Negatively: The night (I.E. darkness of sin) is almost gone.
 - ◆ This world is passing away. I Cor 2:6; 7:31; I Jn 2:8,17.
 - ◆ Are you polishing brass on this sinking ship?
4. Positively: The day (I.E. The Day of the Lord) is at hand (Acts 2:17; I Cor 10:11).
5. Now's the time to awake from your sleep. Mt 25:1-13. Live watchful of His return: Holy-love!

Applications Of Holy-Love. Rom 13:12b-14

1. In your Commitment: *Put off* (unclothe) deeds of darkness -- *put on* armor of light
2. In your Conduct: *Walk not in:* -- *walk* honorably (as if the Day is here!)
 - ◆ Not in carousing (κωμος. Gal 5:21; I Pet 4:3) or drunkenness (μεθη. Gal 5:21; Lk 21:34)
 - ◆ Not in sexual intercourse outside marriage (κοιτη. Heb 13:4) or licentiousness (ασελγεια. Mk 7:22; II Cor 12:21; Gal 5:19; Eph 4:19; I Pet 4:3)
 - ◆ Not in strife (ερισ. II Cor 12:20; Gal 5:20) or jealousy (ζηλος. II Cor 12:20; Gal 5:20)
3. In your Plans: Make *no provision* (foresight) for the flesh -- make provision to *put on* Christ