

Romans 13:6-10

Pay What is Due

1. 13:6 – The Reason to Pay Tribute

- a. *“For for...”* – Is not a typo/mistake, but proper grammar.
- b. *“for this cause”* – Not for wrath sake (in fear), but “conscience sake” for good.
- c. *“pay ye tribute also”* – in addition to subjection. Said to Romans under Caesar’s rule.
- d. Tribute ~def. That paid to honor, submit, or esteem; the price for peace & safety. 1Tim 2:2
- e. Jesus and the tribute controversy - Matt 17:24-17, 22:15-22; Luke 23:2, John 19:15
- f. *“God’s ministers”* – (13:4) to bear the sword revenging evil for the sake of the good.
- g. *“attending continually upon this very thing”* - Wrath upon evil is their responsibility to God.
- h. *What if they fail?* → God is the avenger of all - 1 Thess 4:6, 2 Th 1:6, 2 Tim 4:1, Rom 12:19

2. 13:7 – All Their Dues

- a. *“Render ... to all their dues”* - Due from you; it is your duty. (see also Matt 22:21)
 - i. Duty ~def. a true obligation to be paid or done; what is owed to another.
- b. *“to whom is due”* - No more or less. Not simply by might, but by right. (Learn the law.)
- c. Custom ~def. Tax or charge upon people or goods that traffic or trade in a land.
- d. Fear ~def. Reverence, respect, due regard, worship - Eph 5:21, 5:33
- e. Honor ~def. To give value, worth or esteem, deserving of service, be for not against Phi 2:3
- f. Mother, father, wife, widows, master, elders, king. Eph 6:2, 1Ti 5:1-3, 17, 6:1, 1Pe 2:17, 3:7
- g. A wise man knows what is due. All is due God - 1 Tim 1:17, 6:15-16, 1Co 6:19-20

3. 13:8 – Owe Nothing

- a. *“owe no man any thing”* - Being free from all men, blameless - 1Co 9:19, 1Ti 3:2, 10, 5:7
- b. *“but to love”* – Be constantly paying back love (for Christ’s sake) - Prov 22:7, 2 Cor 5:14
- c. Walking honestly, paying your dues, having to provide is loving - 1 Thess 4:9-12
- d. Stealing/cheating is not the choice here, work, pay debts quickly - Eph 4:28, Pro 3:27-28
- e. We who are given abundant grace should know about love and paying debts - Eph 2:10
- f. Love is owed (b/c of Christ), but payment is not required (b/c of Christ) - Rom 4:4, 5:8

4. 13:9-10 – Love Fulfills the Law

- a. *“fulfilled the law”* - Why would this matter if we are not under it? Rom 6:14-18
 - i. Righteousness of God does not come by the law - Rom 8:2-4, 10:4
 - ii. Context is not your salvation, but the power of rulers against evil using law.
 - iii. The law was made for rulers to revenge evil, the law is good - Rom 7:12, 1Ti 1:9-10
 - iv. How can the law be summed up? The law = love God, love others - Matt 22:35-40
 - v. Governments are not pillars of truth, responsible for your salvation, spiritual walk.
 - vi. We were told to “give place unto wrath” (12:19), 1 Cor 5:11-13, 16:22, Eph 5:6-11
 - vii. Grace teaches righteous behavior, b/c it teaches love by grace - Eph 2:10, Titus 2:14
 - viii. God’s grace is not against the goodness of the law. It does what the law could not.
- b. *“thou shalt not bear false witness”* not in other versions because of textual differences
- c. *“love worketh no ill”* superior to “no wrong” “no harm” as it covers forgiveness, too.
- d. *“love ... fulling of the law”* - Love is good. The law is good. They’re God’s ministers for good.

Walk in love. Eph 5:2