

Practical Christian Living

Romans 13: 6-14

November 15, 2020

Introduction: After Paul establishes the principle of human authority being established by God, he addresses a very practical question: how will they get paid? Paul is of the conviction that the laborer is worthy of his hire. On the other hand, the Jews were of the conviction that it was wrong to pay taxes to Rome as it was another form of worship. This leads him to address the topic of debt in general

I. How Do Rulers Get Paid?

- A. We are again reminded that they are ministers of God for our benefit (vs 6)
- B. We are commanded to render to all what is due them:
 - 1. Tax to whom tax
 - 2. Custom to whom custom
 - 3. Fear to whom fear
 - 4. Honor to whom honor
- C. In this spirit we are encouraged to give honor to one another

II. Owe Nothing to Anyone Except Love

- A. This is not a specific reference to money. Even though Proverbs states, "The borrower is slave to the lender," the Scriptures here have a much broader context
- B. The word is agapoo
- C. It is the complete fulfillment of the law expressed in positive terms, "Love does no wrong to a neighbor."

III. It's Time to Grow Up

- A. Wake up – salvation in the return of Christ grows nearer by the day
- B. Lay aside the deeds of darkness (stop living for the flesh) and put on the armor of light
- C. Let us behave properly as in broad daylight
 - 1. Not carousing or drunkenness
 - 2. Not sexual promiscuity or sensuality
 - 3. Not strife and jealousy

Conclusion: What has God spoken to you about in this message? Are you willing to wake up and give it over to Him at this moment? If you're not, what are you waiting for?

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