

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 8:12-17

Media Reference Number SMX-1104

Sunday, June 11, 2023

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“IT’S TIME YOU QUIT”

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Grace, Flesh, Holy Spirit, Demonic Spirits, Children of God, Indwelling.

**Biblical Christianity, in fact the entire biblical record –
flies in the face of what we as humans believe is the right course for us.**

**We think that there is liberty and freedom
where there are no rules.**

**But we know that when we are left to our own devices
we come to the wrong conclusions, we make the wrong decisions, and we wind up in a very
undesirable place.**

**There is a Liberty that only comes from the right
kind of Submission. Abraham Lincoln was such a man that understood that while America
was a nation enroute to establish a more perfect union – there were those who believed
that freedom was in wealth and ownership.**

<https://images.fineartamerica.com/images-medium-large-5/emancipation-proclamation-tribute-1888-daniel-hagerman.jpg>

Emancipation Proclamation (1863)

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, announcing,

"That all persons held as slaves within the rebellious areas are,
and henceforward shall be - free."

“Although the Emancipation Proclamation did not end slavery in the nation, it did fundamentally begin a transformation of the character of the war. After January 1, 1863, every advance of Federal troops expanded the domain of freedom. The promises given by President Abraham Lincoln to provide such a freedom, would be solely based upon the victory of the Union military forces by nothing less than achieving total victory.”

National Archives, Washington D.C.

We are now about to walk on holy ground as it were.

The arguments here provided by the Apostle Paul are to bring about our own security and confidence, boldness, and assurance – **family!**

If all else is forgotten today, do not forget

these 4 key facts of the Christian life - that are here presented to us.

1st Is our being led by the Spirit of God. **2nd** Is the Spirit of Adoption within us that cries out Abba, Father. **3rd** Is the witness of the Holy Spirit to our spirit, and **4th** Is that as a result of being spiritual aliens in this world – we will suffer because of our identity with {BIG BROTHER} Jesus Christ while in this fallen world.

Romans 8:12-17

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors - not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

IT'S TIME YOU QUIT

**We are not Obligated to do good works.
We are Obligated to let God do good works through us
and to Him be all glory!**

1.) Don't just do something – Stand there

vs. 12-14

Romans 8:12-13

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors – not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die;

There is an on -going Battle to

(1) Control who you are - (2) To tell you what to do with who you are – and (3) to do it all for Someone else.

debtors grk: opheiletes

in the **negative (-)**, we are culprits together. in the **positive (+)** being a debtor to or indebted to, owned by or under the obligation of another.

We Have Been Emancipated.

Galatians 5:13-15, 19-21

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another! :19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:16-18, 22-23

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:24-26

And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

This Is God's Will for Your Life.
This is the example He gave us to do until He returns.

Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore, be imitators of God as dear children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

That is the description of the Christian sitting on either side of you this morning –
but does it describe you?

This is the powerful, true, awesome, and exceptional reality of the Gospel of Jesus Christ – a radically new relationship with God – simply.

Taken On New Debt (Our Only Debt)

It is this “debt” that causes us to love Him all the more every day.

“When we are in debt to someone or to a bank or to a company - there is a part of us that they control. It certainly is true physically, but most importantly it is true mentally and emotionally - that kind of debt eats on us.”

Romans 13:8

Owe no one anything except to love one another,

The debt we are in - is to let God begin to mirror Jesus Christ His Son in and through us – this is true Christianity.

“Where then is our obligation to this salvation? The answer is not complicated. But it is difficult because we, in our “religious flesh” will not surrender control easily. The answer is straightforward enough: We are obligated to do nothing! You don't have to pray, you don't have to get up at 4am for quiet time, you don't have to do family devotions, you don't have to give of your money, you don't have to take a shower every day, you don't have to obey the 10 Commandments, you don't have to wear dark clothing, you don't have to eat low fat foods, you don't have to pile up good deeds to become spiritual. If you have the Spirit of Christ in you, you are as spiritual as you're ever going to be.”

- Charles Swindoll

Galatians 4:19

My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,

formed

grk: morpho

to shape, sculpt, form, mold, chisel or sand until a desired shape or form is achieved.

A great example is here in

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

He is the Meaning of Real Joy, Real Happiness, Real Life

John 12:25-26

He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

“So here’s your body – all bright and shiny, what are you gonna do with it?”

Our human body is the vehicle that is being driven by which we do what is good and honorable to God or.... We drive it towards the appetites of the flesh which are rooted and based in sinful desires.

We sin outwardly only after we have sinned inwardly.

The Pharisee will tell you “No - that’s not true. I’m only held accountable for what I actually do on the outside.” But the Old Testament made this clear when it revealed that God is not so much interested in the law written on stone - but that the law of God is written on the heart. God says that *“He does not look on the outside but on the inside”* why? Because that is His priority for both righteousness and sin, good and evil. These things always happen in this order - first in the mind, then the heart and then – the outward act is committed.

Matthew 15:1-4, 7-20

Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, 2 “Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.” 3 He answered and said to them, “Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, “Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.’ 7 Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 8 “*These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. 9 and in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men....*

...10 When He had called the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear and understand: 11 It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man." 12 Then His disciples came and said to Him, "*Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?*" 13 But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. 14 Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch." 15 Then Peter answered and said to Him, "Explain this parable to us." 16 So Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? 17 Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. 20 These are the things which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

There's an Almost – "New Breed" of Gnosticism in Reverse.

Simply put a man does not become a horse thief when he steals a horse. He steals a horse because he is a horse thief. The stealing of the horse took place much earlier in his thought process and then he used his physical body to carry out the deed. All sin is like this.

Ephesians 5:3-7

But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; 4 neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them.

That is the description of the non-Christian sitting on either side of you this morning – /
hope it doesn't describe you?

A Christian walking in the Spirit, in honor to God is BECOMING like Jesus here and now. We should never, never have sympathy for sin or condone those advancing sin. The depravity of sin and wickedness must be resisted without timidity.

Today – there are those who are wresting the Bible out of your hands and then claim to know what it teaches. It would be comical – if it wasn't so deadly.

(We are commanded to be judges in Scripture, not executioners.)

Hebrews 5:14

But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Matthew 7:15-20

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

We must never condemn (banish) someone.

None of us have the ability or the authority to condemn another human being. That damnation is strictly reserved for God alone!

Romans 2:1

Therefore, you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

Judge grk: krino

to make the decision, to issue a final conclusion, to sit as or in the place of a judge, having the power to pronounce a sentence.

Ephesians 5:11-14a

Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. 12 It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. 13 But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, 14a for the light makes everything visible.

What Light?

John 3:14-21

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, (Numbers 21) even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but

he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

End of Study

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