

Daily Devotions

Romans Week 5

we should fear because he is a “minister of God” (Vs 4)(*one who administers God’s rule*)

(Vs 5-7) These verses show us that we are to live peaceably with the laws of the land. This includes taxes, laws concerning firearms, city bylaws etc and etc. As long as the laws do not contradict the express commands of our Saviour and the Bible; we should obey. I have heard of Christians using their “faith” as reason to break the law. I suspect it is merely a cloak for their rebellious hearts. Jesus lived on earth during the oppressive Roman reign and He never encouraged anarchy.

I thank God for our free country, but freedom would disappear without boundaries. We should be good citizens and pray for God to change our country (1 Tim 2:1)

Saturday/Sunday: Romans 13:8-14

Paul has just shown us that the laws of the land, the “tribute” was of God and we are to obey. In light of this.....

(Vs 8) Christians should rid themselves of any and all debts except the debt of love which we are always debtors to. It is not saying it is wrong to borrow with an agreement to pay back etc, etc. He is referring to money that is owed (*possibly to government Vs 7*) with no repayment intended.

(Vs 9-10) Here we see the fact that loving another person is basically fulfilling the law (we won’t fornicate, kill, steal, lie, covet) Jesus summed up the whole law under 2 points “Loving God” and “Loving our Neighbor” (Matthew 22:37-40)

(Vs 11-14) Paul closes up with some exhortations on living right. Notice Vs 14. This is a result of Romans 12:1-2.

Let us die to self, put on the Lord Jesus Christ and starve the old sinful man!

Monday: Romans 12:1-2

Paul in this chapter makes a shift from doctrine to what our outside lives should be like. How does a Christian be a Christian? Simple answer is “We allow God to live His life through us” To do this we must die to self

(Vs 1) Paul said it is our reasonable service to give our bodies as living sacrifices to God. Why? Because He died for u, it is our duty to live unto Him

(Vs 2) Every Christian is either being “transformed” or “conformed” Notice we are transformed by the “renewing of our minds” A Christian thinks different than a lost man... this is because he is being transformed and it begins in our thoughts! The bible is a big part of this.

Are you a “living sacrifice” for Christ or have you stolen back what He purchased on the cross? Today purpose that Christ will have all of you!

Tuesday: Romans 12:3-8

Have you ever looked into a watch? If you have you probably noticed how well it all works together... this is by design. If one part is missing the whole is affected.

(Vs 3-4) Every true Christian should identify with Christ’s church in membership and involvement. Every Christian is distinct but we all have a part to play (Vs 4-5) This is because of “gifts.” Gifts are supernatural workings of God in us enabling us to serve Him and His church. These are a work of grace and should not be a source of boasting.

(Vs 5-8) Here Paul talks about some of the gifts and encourages us to use them in a proper manner. I will briefly cover them.

Vs 6 Prophecy- (preaching of God's Word), Vs 7 Ministry (service to others.) Vs 7 Teaching- (Teaching in the church) (Vs 8) Exhortation (encourager), Giving (special ability to help above the tithe), Ruling (administration), Mercy (a listening ear)

I packed those in for space, but all of these are in a church. You see, Church is not JUST about getting, it is about giving and ministering.

You need to ask God to show you what He has equipped you to do and develop those gifts and be faithful to the church meetings looking to minister to others!

Wednesday: Romans 12:9-16

Here we see the spirit within a church. Remember this is a church of people who has obeyed Vs 1-2.

(Vs 9) Be sincere in your love one for another. Flee evil and love righteousness.

(Vs 10) Love your Christian brothers and sisters; let them go first in all areas.

(Vs 11-16) Notice the love that works (Vs 11) and gives (Vs 13) and forgives (Vs 14) and cares (Vs 15) and is one with one another. (Vs 16)

Friend, mark it down, any time strife comes between 2 Christians or in a church, it is because Romans 12:1-2 has not been followed.

These verses show the inner workings of a spirit led church. Lets strife to be such a church!

Thursday: Romans 12:17-21

Yesterday we saw the life IN the church; here we see our life OUTSIDE the church. How should we act towards unbelievers?

(Vs 17) If we are to be "Christians" in this world, we will have people who do not like what we stand for. Read the first part of this verse.... We are not to give back evil for the evil we receive.

(Vs 18) We are to make every effort to live peaceably among the world. Some Christians have "martyr complexes" I am convinced they would like nothing better than to be arrested "for the faith"

Truth be told they are probably "persecuted" for their "stupidity." We ought to be the most gracious, hard working, honest, reputable people around. We must never compromise, but we must adorn the doctrine of God well (Titus 2:10)

(Vs 19-20) We must remember that God is the judge (*and He loves even those who do evil to us*) God will step in at the right time if a judgment is needed. Until then... (Vs 20) We are to do good to our enemies, maybe the good will draw them to Christ! We may have enemies, but we must never BE enemies!

(Vs 21) When wrong occurs, either we will be overcome with the evil or we will purpose to overcome the evil with good!

Today, let us purpose to live in this world, as Christ would want us to; A good testimony for Him.

Friday: Romans 13: 1-7

Have you ever been "pulled over." I have ☺. In keeping with the way we are to live in this world we see that God has placed authority in the world.

(Vs 1-4) Have you ever seen a police car behind you and got nervous? I have, and its because I have a guilty conscience. Vs 3 tells us that if we do well, we have no reason to fear and if we do wrong,

