

**"The Doctrine of Consecration"**

**Part 13**

**Romans 12:1-15:7**

**Introduction:** Over the past several weeks we have been looking at the believer's obligation to all others and to the government. We looked at the pinnacle of all of this and we considered how we are to love our neighbor and in so doing we are fulfilling the law.

**Notice Romans 13:9-10**

Now, Paul knew the human nature and he knew man would procrastinate when it came to applying what we have been studying. But this teaching needed to be applied instantly. This brings us now to the closing verses of Romans 13 when we shall see why it is so important that we live what Paul has been teaching at this present time.

**"The Need for Urgency"**

The verses we are about to look at are so fitting for the day which we are living in.

**Notice Romans 13:11**

The warning here in this verse is a warning about falling into a spiritual sleep. Jesus warned His listeners about being caught unexpectedly when He returns at the end of the tribulation.

**Matthew 25:1-6**

*Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*

<sup>2</sup> *And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*

<sup>3</sup> *They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:*

<sup>4</sup> *But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.*

<sup>5</sup> *While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.*

<sup>6</sup> *And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.*

In Romans 13:11 Paul is warning his readers NOT about missing the Rapture, for they are saved, but he is warning them about NOT being found serving when the Rapture happens. There is a tendency for many believers to drift away from serving the Lord as time goes

on. When they first get saved, they are full of enthusiasm and they want to do all they can. But as times goes on, they grow cold and fall into a spiritual sleep. They withdraw from service because many get involved in something that has no eternal value and it takes them away from the church and it robs them of the time to serve. This can be seen in the church at Ephesus.

**Revelation 2:1-5**

*Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks:*

*<sup>2</sup> I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:*

*<sup>3</sup> And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name 's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.*

*<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.*

*<sup>5</sup> Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

God is so concerned about believers falling into a spiritual sleep that He uses several passages to address the danger.

**Ephesians 5:14**

*<sup>14</sup> Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.*

**1 Corinthians 15:32-34**

*<sup>32</sup> If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.*

*<sup>33</sup> Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*

*<sup>34</sup> Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:4-9**

<sup>4</sup> *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore let us not sleep**, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

<sup>7</sup> *For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.*

<sup>8</sup> *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.*

<sup>9</sup> *For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,*

**Notice Romans 13:11 again.**

We must notice here that we are to "KNOW THE TIMES". In other words, we as believers are to be able to look at the events in the world and use them to discern that our world is quickly approaching the kingdom of the Anti-Christ and that we as believers are quickly approaching our blessed hope, the Rapture. Jesus rebuked the unsaved religious leaders of His day for not discerning the signs.

**Matthew 16:1-3**

*The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.*

<sup>2</sup> *He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.*

<sup>3</sup> *And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?*

**Notice Romans 13:12a**

We are living in "THE NIGHT" in the sense that we are living under the darkness of this world. We are not part of the darkness, but we are in a world of darkness.

**1 Thessalonians 5:5**

<sup>5</sup> *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*

Paul tells the Roman believers of his day that the night is far spent, and the day is at hand.

It is noticeably clear today that we are coming to the break of dawn. The SON will soon appear, and the night will be over for us who know Jesus Christ. There will be no more darkness for us after we are raptured away. The words "AT HAND" mean that Paul and the other Apostles believed the return of Jesus Christ for His church was drawing nearer every day. We see this in the book of Hebrews.

### Hebrews 10:23-25

*<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

*<sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

*<sup>25</sup> Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

### Notice Romans 13:12

Here we are exhorted to cast off the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light. This statement by Paul conveys the idea that we are in a battle because we are to put on ARMOUR. The idea here is that we are to rise, shine and fight. The "armour of light" statement is very interesting. A brilliant light is more difficult to approach than bullets or spears. We all know what it is like to have a car approaching with really bright high beams. It almost blinds you. It makes it impossible to see anything but the light.

Therefore, we are called to put on the armour of light. The enemy of darkness has a very difficult time approaching us as we are clothed in the light of righteousness. Our enemy hates the light. In order for us to PUT ON the armour of light we must PUT OFF the works of darkness. It is the cross that gives us the power to do this.

Paul will now give us details of what is to be PUT OFF.

### Notice Romans 13:13

There are several points to see here:

1. **We are to walk honestly, as in the day.**

The word "honestly" has the idea of walking in a way that compliments who we are in Christ.

### Ephesians 4:1

*I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.*

We are to walk "AS IN THE DAY". In other words, we are to live the way we will after Jesus returns and frees us from the presence of sin.

Paul will now get detailed with what is to be cast off.

## 2. The Banquet sins.

**"not in rioting"** This was something that often practiced in Rome. Notice the definition as given by Strong's.

*"A nocturnal and riotous procession of half drunken and frolicsome fellows who after supper parade through the streets with torches and music in honour of Bacchus (Roman god of wine and theatre) or some other deity, and sing and play before houses of male and female friends; hence used generally of feasts and drinking parties that are protracted till late at night and indulge in revelry."*

**"not in drunkenness"** This was a practice that related to the rioting. The people would get drunk at these celebrations and lose all self-control. They would enter a state in which there were no limits or boundaries. As believers we are not to be filled with wine, but we are to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

## 3. The Bedroom sins.

**"not in chambering"** This refers to sinful activity committed in the bed, namely adultery.

**"not in wantonness"** This refers to "unbridled lust". It is sexual practices with no restraints. We get a glimpse of the meaning in Ephesians.

### Ephesians 4:19

<sup>19</sup> *Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.*

## 4. The Satanic sins.

**"not in strife"** This would be quarreling and division.

### Ephesians 4:3

<sup>3</sup> *Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

**"not in envying"** We are not to be jealous and envious of others. We are to rejoice with those who rejoice.

### Notice Romans 13:14

In contrast to the sins of darkness we are to "PUT ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST". The definition of "PUT ON" means, "TO SINK INTO". It has the idea of putting on clothing. If we are to "SINK INTO JESUS" then we can be sure there is no effort on our part but instead it is a surrender to simply allow Him to wrap around us. This is what it is to "put on Jesus". It is to surrender over to Him and allow the His Spirit to manifest Jesus through our lives. We put Him on, and He produces the righteousness in our lives.

**Conclusion:**

We are in the night, but the dawn will soon begin to break, and Jesus will appear.

**1 Peter 1:19**

*<sup>19</sup> We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:*

**Psalm 30:5b**

*weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.*