

“Put On Christ”
Romans 13:8-14
5/21/23
Message 26

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Put On Christ”
- ***The Burden God has Placed on my heart***
 - ***For Over 10 years now***
 - **The Burden – The Church is in bad shape – Lost focus**
 - The Woke Church
 - Churches Watering down the word
 - Seeker Friendly Churches
 - Entrainment Churches
 - Consumer driven churches
 - **Now This Burden was not just given to me**
 - The Scripture are full of them!
 - Hosea on Wed. the problem then is the same as today
 - 1st People did not want to hear God’s Word
 - 2nd So they Stop listening
 - 3rd The Priest stopped teaching it
 - Over the years many godly men have warned the church as well

- Men like Tozer, J. Vernon McGee, Ect...
- **Show Video of Pastor Chuck**
- **Romans 12-13 is ALL about how we are to live for God**
 - In this section of Romans 13 Paul lays out some Exhortation to the church
 - To LOVE each other – How
 - An Urgent Call to serious faith – HIGH Time to awake out of sleep
 - To Put on Christ

• **Review**

- **Remember The Context is still Romans 12:1**

Romans 12:1 (NKJV)

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

- As the followers of Christ
 - We're called to moral excellence.
 - We're called to virtue (Holiness) because we don't just know what Truth is, we know Truth Himself.
- Romans 1-11 = DOCTRINE
- Romans 12 = DUTY
- Doctrine = DUTY
- **What A Living Sacrifice Looks like**
 - **Romans 12:2**

- NOT Conformed But Renewed
- **Romans 12:3**
 - Right Attitude about yourself
- **Romans 12:4-5**
 - You are now a part of His Body – Every Part does it's share
- **Romans 12:6-8**
 - Use your gift for the glory of God and to build His Body
- **Romans 12:9-21**
 - LOVE / Love the Body / Love the World
- **Romans 13:1-7**
 - Good Citizens
 - For God's Sake vs. 1-2
 - For Your Own Sake vs. 3-4
 - For Conscience Sake vs. 5-7

• **This Morning 3 Wonderful Truths On How To Putting on Christ**

- The Call To Love vs. 8-10
- The Call To Urgency vs. 11-12
- The Call To Walk With Christ vs. 13-14

The Call To Love vs. 8-10

• **First: We should see it as a debt v. 8a**

Romans 13:8 (NKJV)

8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

○ **1st Owe no one anything except to love one another**

▪ **Owe –**

- Greek: Opheilo
- Means: To owe; to owe money, to be in debt for

▪ **NOTE –**

- **Now Paul is using the same word translated “DUE” in the previous verse**

Romans 13:7 (NKJV)

7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are **due**, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

- He's continuing the same thought!
- Verse 7 - We should not have any outstanding debts!
 - If you owe somebody some money, pay your debt!

▪ **NOW –**

- **There is ONE DEBT that you can never finish paying off!!!**
 - OWN No One ANYTHING – BUT TO LOVE
 - The only “DEBT” we are to carry is...
 - The “DEBT” - To love one another –
 - This DEBT NEVER GOES AWAY
 - A Call to love one another

- How many times does God tell us to do this?

- **Serious Question**

- Pause Think about this with me –
 - HOW MANY TIMES DOES THE LORD HAVE TO TELL US THIS
 - The His Body
 - Love His World

- **What Type of “LOVE” is this?**

- Remember – Many Different words in the Greek for love
- To Love –
 - Greek: Agapē
 - Highest form of LOVE
 - God’s Love towards US
 - Love based on the will
 - Giving value to a person
 - What AGAPE love looks like:
 - It is a love which causes you to SACRIFICE for the BENEFIT of the other person.
 - A love that seeks to GIVE rather than GET.
 - A love that keeps on loving even when the others don’t RESPOND.
 - A love that keeps on loving without asking ANYTHING in return.

- It Hangs in there!

○ **Steadman Pic**

- *“Authentic Christian love is not based on emotions; it is based on obedience.”*
- Sometimes its hard to love one another – BUT WE MUST
- God has commanded and the world needs to see it
- I Love How John puts it – Turn to (1 John 4)

1 John 4:7–12 (NKJV)

7 *Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.*

8 *He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

9 *In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.*

10 *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

11 *Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

12 *No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.*

1 John 4:20–21 (NKJV)

20 *If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?*

21 *And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.*

▪ **We are to LOVE like GOD**

- The World has a completely different definition of love
- God Speaks the Truth In Love So must we

- **We Need the Holy Spirit**

- We CAN'T do this LOVE without GOD
- *MacDonald; "It is impossible for an unconverted person to manifest this divine love. In fact, it is impossible even for a believer to demonstrate it in his own strength. It can only be exhibited by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. Love found its perfect expression on earth in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our love to God manifests itself in obedience to His commandments."*

- **2nd Clear Up SOME Confusion**

- **Now Some take this as a command to never borrow**

- BUT Jesus permitted borrowing in passages like (Matthew 5:42)

Matthew 5:42 (NKJV)

42 Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

- We Need to Barrow to buy
 - House
 - Cars
 - Etc...

- **Warning about too much DEBT**

- Credit Card debt

Proverbs 22:7 (NKJV)

7 The rich rules over the poor, And the borrower is servant to the lender.

- **Second: It fulfills the Law v. 8b**

Romans 13:8 (NKJV)

8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

○ **1st Love is the fulfillment of the law**

- It is easy to do all the right religious “things” but to neglect love.
 - Our love is the true measure of our obedience to God
 - When we LOVE we Fulfill the LAW
- Quick note on the LAW
 - Some people have the idea that living the Christian life has nothing to do with “the Law”.
 - Some might say; I’m no longer under the Law, brother!”
 - In some ways this is true
 - We are no longer under the law in regards to judgment
 - But the LAW is still the LAW
 - Paul Says the way we fulfil the LAW – LOVE

○ **2nd The LAW**

- The Ten Commandments is divided into 2 sections:
 - The 1st deals with the vertical
 - The 2nd deals with the horizontal
- Jesus Summed it up in (Matt. 22:37-40)

Matthew 22:37–40 (NKJV)

37 Jesus said to him, “*You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*”

38 *This is the first and great commandment.*

39 *And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’*

40 *On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

- So AKA = When you love your neighbor
 - You’re not going to commit
 - Adultery
 - Steal
 - Or Slander

- **Third: For the Commandments v. 9**

Romans 13:9 (NKJV)

9 *For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*

- **1st Adultery –**
 - Greek: Moicheuo
 - Means:
 - To commit adultery; to break the marriage vows
 - To have SEX with another person who is not your spouse
 - ALL SEX outside of marriage is SIN
 - Marriage defined by God
 - One Man One Woman til death part them

- Sex outside of marriage is a very selfish act
 - You are ONLY thinking about YOU - Your pleasure
 - It will always bring destruction
 - Illustration
 - Let's say that a married man starts getting close to another woman other than his wife at work.
 - Let's say that he tells the woman that he "loves" her.
 - Can that be true love?
 - NO!!!
 - If we LOVED her he would not cause her to SIN
 - Nor would he sin against His wife
- **2nd Murder –**
 - Greek: Phoneuo
 - Means: To take someone's life, to slay, murder
 - Gossip –
 - MURDERS a person's reputation
 - Are words can do a lot of damage
- **3rd Steal –**
 - Greek: Klepto
 - Means: To steal; to commit a theft
- **4th Bear False Witness –**

- Greek: pseudomartureo
- Means: “false” + “to be a witness – to utter falsehoods in giving testimony, to lie
- **5th Covet**
 - Greek: Epithumeo –
 - Means: To have a desire for, long for; to lust after, covet
 - By the way this is where ALL the other sins come from!!!
- **6th All summed up in this**
 - "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
 - Instead of having to worry about five things NOT to do
 - We only have to focus on doing ONE thing – LOVING

• **Fourth: Love does no harm to a neighbor v. 10**

Romans 13:10 (NKJV)

10 *Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.*

- **1st Love does NO HARM – LOVE is the fulfillment of the law.**
 - If you will LOVE people
 - Then you won't be hurting them.
 - Lesson
 - If everyone JUST followed this ONE SIMPLE command
 - What would the world look like?!
 - *Stedman; “If everyone followed this one simple commandment, there would be no more divorces,*

because a divorce is nothing more or less than a failure to love one another. If there were no more divorces, if couples loved each other with Christlike love, children would grow up happy, confident, and secure in homes that are bound together by genuine love. If everyone followed this one simple commandment, there would be no more wars. The nations of the world could disarm without fear. We could dismantle the thousands of nuclear weapons that threaten all life on the planet. If everyone followed this one simple commandment, there would be no more crime. Our streets and parks would be safe to walk at night. People would no longer have to protect their homes with iron bars, deadbolts, and electronic alarm systems. Our tax burden would plummet, because governments would not need to spend money on prisons, police, and courts. We could go on and on, but these few examples are all we need to catch a glimpse of the utopian heaven-on-earth that would result if people would just follow this one simple commandment.

- Of Course –

- We know this will never be the case with the world
- BUT HOW ABOUT WITH US

- **2nd How can I love like that?**

- **1st Be in God's love**

1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

19 *We love Him because He first loved us.*

- **2nd Be Filled With the Holy Spirit**

Galatians 5:22–23 (NKJV)

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.*

- 3rd Encourage others towards love

Hebrews 10:24 (NKJV)

24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

The Call To Urgency vs. 11-12

- **First: It's Past time to Wake Up v. 11a**

- **1st And Do THIS! V. 13a**

Romans 13:11 (NKJV)

*11 **And do this**, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.*

- **And Do This - Do What –**

- Everything Paul has been communicating from Romans 12 til NOW
- Did you know the Nike slogan was Biblical
 - “Just Do IT”
 - The Christian Life is NOT a spectator sport – It requires ACTION

- **2nd Knowing the Time v. 13b**

Romans 13:11 (NKJV)

*11 And do this, **knowing the time**, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.*

- **There are 2 words for time in Greek**

- 1st Chronos
 - Which means the passage of time.
- 2nd Kairos

- Which refers to a Specific Moment.
- Illustrated
 - Our Clocks Measures - Chronos
 - BUT when it read 10am this morning,
 - It told me it was the Kairos to Worship
- **The Word for TIME here is – KAIROS**
 - The moment & what it's appointed by God for
- **Do you know what “KAIROS / AGE” we're in?**
 - The LAST DAYS

Matthew 16:1–3 (NKJV)

- 1 Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a sign from heaven.*
- 2 He answered and said to them, “When it is evening you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red’;*
- 3 and in the morning, ‘It will be foul weather today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Hypocrites! You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.*

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 (NKJV)

- 1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you.*
- 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.*
- 3 For when they say, “Peace and safety!” then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape.*
- 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.*
- 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.*
- 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.*
- 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night.*

8 But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.
9 For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.
11 Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

○ **3rd It HIGH TIME to WAKE UP v. 13c**

Romans 13:11 (NKJV)

11 And do this, knowing the time, **that now it is high time to awake out of sleep;** for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

- The Church is asleep in the light
 - It has been “hypnotized” by the world.
 - The pursuit of pleasure
- We too get a little “sleepy” to the things of God.
 - Parable

Matthew 25:1–13 (NKJV)

1 “Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.
2 Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish.
3 Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil with them,
4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
5 But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept.
6 “And at midnight a cry was heard: ‘Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!’
7 Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps.
8 And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’
9 But the wise answered, saying, ‘No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.’
10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.

- 11** *“Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open to us!’*
12 *But he answered and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.’*
13 *“Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.*

- Briefly Explain
 - D.A. Carson in the Expositor’s Bible Commentary
 - Describing a first-century Jewish wedding
 - Normally the bridegroom with some close friends left his home to go to the bride’s home, where there were various ceremonies, followed by a procession through the streets – after nightfall – to his home.
 - The ten virgins may be bridesmaids who have been assisting the bride; and they expect to meet the groom as he comes from the bride’s house...Everyone in the procession was expected to carry his or her own torch.
 - Those without a torch would be assumed to be party crashers or even lawbreakers.
 - The festivities, which might last several days, would formally get under way at the groom’s house.”
 - Interpretive
 - The return of Christ!
 - Christ will return at an unknown hour and that His church must be ready.
 - Being ready keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus at all times while we eagerly await His coming.

- All 10 were sleeping
- 5 Were completely unprepared –
 - Unsaved but hanging around churches
 - They Ask to barrow –
 - BUT you can't barrow FAITH in Christ you must have it yourself

• **Second: Our Salvation Is NEAR v. 11b**

Romans 13:11 (NKJV)

11 And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

- **1st For now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.**
 - Every day that goes by gets us closer to the day of our Salvation
 - The moment we see Jesus in death or rapture
- **2nd Lesson**
 - **BE Ready to go**

Matthew 24:45–51 (NKJV)

45 “Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season?

46 Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.

47 Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods.

48 But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’

49 and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards,

50 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of,

51 and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

- Are we READY?!

- **Third: The Night Is Far Spent v. 12**

- **1st The night is far spent, the day is at hand v. 12a**

Romans 13:12 (NKJV)

12 *The night is far spent, the day is at hand.* *Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.*

- Because we know the danger of the times
 - We anticipate the soon return of Jesus
- This very fact should change the way we live everyday
 - There's not much night time left!

- **2nd Cast off the works of darkness v. 12b**

Romans 13:12 (NKJV)

12 *The night is far spent, the day is at hand.* ***Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness,*** *and let us put on the armor of light.*

- We must cast off the works of darkness
 - The works of darkness
 - Paul is going to tell what these works of darkness are
 - Revelry and drunkenness, licentiousness and lust, strife and envy.
 - These are not appropriate for Christians who have come out of the night into God's light.

- **3rd The armor of light v. 12c**

Romans 13:12 (NKJV)

12 *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.*

- Put on Lord Jesus Christ Himself
 - We put on all the armor of God and are equipped to both defend and attack.

The Call To Walk With Christ vs. 13-14

• First: We need to put off the deeds of darkness v. 13

- **1st Let US WALK Properly as In the DAY v. 12a**

Romans 13:13 (NKJV)

13 *Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

- Carries the idea – To WALK WORTHY

- **2nd Revelries & Drunkenness v. 13b**

Romans 13:13 (NKJV)

13 *Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

- We as Christians must resist being caught in the Rebellious, Party Attitude sweeping the world today

- **Revelry –**

- Drunken party, carousal
- A nocturnal and riotous procession of half drunken and frivolous fellows who after supper parade through the streets with torches and music in honor of Bacchus (Greek god of wine) 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

- **Drunkenness –**

- Intoxication; drunkenness.
- Some folks don't need a party as an excuse to get drunk. They drink when they're alone.
- Illustration
 - Gal in front our house the other night

- **3rd Lewdness & lust v. 13c**

Romans 13:13 (NKJV)

13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

- The next two words deal with sexual sin:

- **Lewdness**

- A place for laying down; a bed, couch; we'd call it "sleeping around"
- The word Paul uses here is not talking about sleeping in church.
- He's talking about Sexual Intercourse.

- **Lust**

- Lacking sexual restraints, outrageousness, shamelessness; the fundamental thought is the acknowledging of no restraints, rudely doing whatever the latest impulse leads you to do.

- **Christians cannot love people and live for sex**

- Sexual immorality will ruin you!

○ **4th Strife & envy v. 13d**

Romans 13:13 (NKJV)

13 *Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

- The last two words deal with conflict with others:
- **Strife**
 - Contention, strife, wrangling
- **Envy**
 - An envious and contentious rivalry, jealousy

• **Second: We need to put on the Lord v. 14**

○ **1st But put on the Lord Jesus Christ v. 14a**

Romans 13:14 (NKJV)

14 **But put on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

- **Put On – Greek: Enduo –**
 - To sink into (clothing), put on, clothe one's self
 - How do we get “dressed” with Jesus?
 - Perhaps the key is in the title given to Jesus – “Lord”
- **Lesson – He has to be LORD**
 - Some will say I just want Jesus as my Savior
 - But Lord – NO I still want to live for myself
 - YOU CAN'T – He is either your LORD and Savior or He nothing to you

- So since He is LORD
 - You take the BACK SEAT
- **2nd Make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts v. 14b**

Romans 13:14 (NKJV)

14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

▪ **Provision – pronoia**

- (Before” + “to understand”) – forethought, providential care; to make provision for a thing
- It’s like planning for a trip and packing what you think you’ll need
- DON’T MAKE PLANS TO SIN
- DON’T MAKE IT EASY TO SIN

▪ **Flesh –**

- The sensuous nature of man, the “animal nature”, the sin nature; the part of me that loves to sin and rebel against God
- My “flesh” wants certain things. Am I going to “pack a bag” for my flesh? Am I going to “provide for” my flesh?

Closing

- Are we living our lives consistent with how God has told us to live?
- PUT ON CHRIST
 - Don’t pack for the flesh – CRUCIFY your flesh

- There's the old Eskimo proverb: "Every man has two dogs fighting inside of him. The dog you feed is the dog that wins"
- Are you feeding the "flesh dog" or the "Spirit dog"