

Subj: **No Subject**

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The Debt Of Every Man

1. Even though no man (or woman) enjoys being in debt, there is still one debt, which every person owes, and which they will always owe, to one another. What is this debt? The debt of love. God's Word tells us, in Romans 13:8: "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."

A. Owe-Greek-opheilo (of-i-lo) or ophileo (of-i-leh-o): to be under obligation (to another); to bear the duty of (loving one another).

B. No man. Greek-medeis (may-dice): no one; not even one (person).

C. Any thing. From the same Greek word as "No man"; meaning not a single (thing).

D. But-Meaning except, or only (to love).

E. To love. Greek-phileo (fil-eh-o): to be a friend to; to have affection or compassion for; a feeling of the heart; to be a good neighbor to.

F. One another. Greek-allelon (al-lay-lone): each other; speaking of every person.

G. For he that loveth one another hath fulfilled the law. We read in Gal. 5:13-15: "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another."

a. For brethren. Greek-adelphos (ad-el-fos): a brother (or sister); speaking of those in the body of Christ, both close and in far away places.

b. Liberty-Greek-eleutheria (el-yoo-ther-ee-ah): freedom, unrestrained, or bound by (sin and it's chains or restraints); to be totally free from being held down by guilt, due to sins which one has committed. Jesus Christ has provided freedom from sin, and from all unrighteousness, by his precious blood; giving unto anyone who will accept it by faith, complete freedom from the powers of Satan, and from all his spiritual forces. For John 8:36 tells us, that if the Son of God sets one free, they shall be free indeed.

c. Use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh. This is telling us, that we

should not take advantage of the liberty which Jesus has provided for us; believing that since Jesus has shed his blood, and delivered us from the consequences of sin, that we now can live as we please; believing that we no longer have to be concerned, about living in a righteous manner.

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d. But by love, serve one another. Greek-douleuo (dool-yoo-o): to be in bondage unto (every brother and sister in Christ); to be obligated to help one another, in any way which should ever arise; expecting nothing in return for such service.

e. Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. This is to say, we should all show love for one another; and when we do so, we are also showing love for ourselves; because when we be a blessing unto another, we are also bringing blessings upon ourselves. For we are told in Gal. 6:7, that whatsoever we sow, or that which we do unto others (good or evil), we will also reap upon ourselves. Therefore, if we really love ourselves, then we will show love for others.

f. If ye bite. Hebrew-nashak (naw-shak): to strike or to sting; to oppress. Many people do not realize, that when they wrongfully do others, in any way whatsoever, they are spiritually biting others; oppressing not only the other person, but themselves as well. Most people do not realize, the damage they are bringing about, when they backbite and wrongfully speak of others. Even when others wrongfully do us, we are still to love them. Love is shown in our speech, as well as in our actions.

g. And devour one another. Greek-katesthio (kat-es-thee-o): to tear down (spiritually); to appose; to do any thing whatsoever, which harms or causes damage of any kind (spiritual, physical, mental, emotional) unto another person.

h. Take heed. Greek-blepo (blep-o): to beware, be careful or cautious.

i. That ye be not consumed one of another. Greek-analisko (an-al-is-ko): to destroy, or be brought to an end.

2. We also read in 1 Tim. 1:5: "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned."

A. The end. Hebrew-telos (tel-os): the conclusion, or the goal of; the purpose for.

B. Of the commandment. Greek-paraggelia (par-ang-gel-ee-ah): the message, charge, or declaration (of God).

C. Is charity. Greek-agape (ag-ah-pay): affection, benevolence, or Godly

love.

D. Out of a pure heart. Greek-katharos (kath-ar-os): clean or sinless; a heart desiring to walk upright or righteously.

E. And of a good conscience. Greek-agathos (ag-ath-os): well; as innocent of any evil committed.

F. And of faith unfeigned. Greek-anupokritos (an-oo-pok-ree-tos): true, sincere, or without hypocrisy.

3. God's Word teaches us to do unto others, as we desire for them to do unto us. We read in Matt. 7:12: "Therefore things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." We also read in James 2:8: "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, ye do well." Greek-kalos (kal-occe): good or great; a way which is beneficial, or valuable.

4. What is the law, which the scriptures tell us of fulfilling? We read in Lev. 19:18: "Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am the Lord."

A. Thou shalt not avenge. Hebrew-naqam (naw-kam): to seek revenge or retaliation toward another; to take vengeance upon.

B. Nor bear any grudge. Hebrew-natar (naw-tar): to hold anger, unforgiveness, or resentment against another; to fail to show love.

5. God's Word tells us much concerning love. We read in 1 Corinthians chapter 13, which is called the love chapter: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For

now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” This chapter is telling us, that regardless of what talent we may have; whether it be to speak in tongues, prophesy, interpret mysteries, have mountains of knowledge, or have faith to remove mountains; if we do not have love, we are nothing. And regardless of what great deeds we may perform, if we do not have love, it all will profit us nothing. Our love should show patience and kindness. True love does not contain envy or jealousy, and is not proud minded. Love does not act indecently, or shamefully. A person with true love, is not only concerned about their own welfare, but for the welfare of others also; and is not easily angered. A true loving person, thinks not evil toward others; nor do they enjoy walking in iniquity, but in truth. They also, will endure all kinds of hardship, for the sake of others; with the faith and hope, that things will improve or change (in others). Also, love never fails to be shown, even in the midst of opposing circumstances.

But if one prophesies, speaks in tongues, or has all knowledge, it will amount to nothing. For the prophesies will fail to come to pass, the speaking in tongues will cease, and the knowledge will vanish away, and no longer be remembered. For when the perfect one, Jesus Christ, shall come, all that we have done, will be done away with. When we were children, we acted as children; but when we became adults, we quit the childish lifestyle, and started acting like adults. For now, we see through a glass darkly. Greek-en (en): as to be in a fixed position; unable to move to a better position (to see better at the present time); as to sit in a position where eyesight is limited; an obscure position. But when Jesus is come, our eyes will be opened to much clearer sight and understanding. And we will realize, that of faith, hope, and love, that love is far greater than the others.

6. Gal. 5:22 tells us, that the fruit of the Spirit is love. If one truly has the Spirit of God living in them, they will bear the fruit of love; for God is love.

7. Love is patient in enduring situations; enabling one to wait patiently; without complaining. If we have Godly love, it will be shown unto others. The expression which we present, in every situation, will be loving. Love should certainly always, be felt around Christian people.

8. Love is always forgiving. Just as we were told in Lev. 19:18, love does not hold resentment or grudges, but is forgiving toward others. Jesus told us in Matt. 6:14-15, that we must forgive others, if we expect our heavenly Father to forgive us. If we do not forgive others, then we ourselves will not be forgiven.

9. Love is generous toward others. A person who truly loves others, loves to give unto others. They will continually be seeking for ways to give. Jesus told us the reward for giving, in Luke 6:38: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

10. One who is showing real Godly love, loves to serve others. They look for ways to be of service unto others; and they expect nothing in return, for their service; and they perform their service joyfully.

11. A loving person, is able to restore others who fall. When a person feels like they are a nobody, a loving person looks for ways to restore them; to be of encouragement unto them; to make them realize, that they were created to be somebody; and that they are very important to God; regardless of how many times they have failed Him.

12. A Godly-loving person, accepts people as they are; whether they be poor or rich; wearing nice, beautiful clothing, or dressed in rags; regardless of what the outer man may present. A real loving person, looks at the heart of others; not at their rating in society.

13. We find some people, are very hard to love. They present a picture like a concrete wall; very hard to get through.

But many times, when they get to a place of no where else to turn, they will turn to us; if we show signs of love. What about the prodigal son? Even though he had sinned against his father, and against Heaven, when he got as far as he could go, he turned back to his father. Why? Because his father had shown signs of love toward him, when he lived at home. He knew that his father would forgive him, for his wrong doing; even though he had lived foolishly, and had been wasteful. We read in Luke 15:11-32: "And He (Jesus) said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will

arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and entreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.” Even though the father had given the son, all the portion of goods, which fell to him, he still owed him one thing; and that was to love him; regardless of how much wrong he had done. We can see from this story, that his father showed Godly love; in a very great way. What about the other son? Did he express Godly love? No, not at all. Instead, he showed expressions of jealousy, anger, and bitterness. Instead of showing gladness for his brother’s safe return, he acted as though he thought it was awful; for his father to treat his brother with such kindness and love. What if it had been one of us? Would we of been glad to see a brother or sister return home safely; after such wrong doing? Or would we also of been angry, bitter, and jealous?

14. God has given every one of his children, the power to love Him; whom we have never seen, whom most of us have never heard (aloud), and whom we

have never felt. Yet He has given us the ability to love Him, enough to give our life for Him. He told us in John 13:34-35: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

Conclusion:

Every one of us would love to be totally debt free; even though most of us never reach this point. And when it comes to our spiritual life, we also will never be debt-free. For God's Word tells us, that we will always owe the debt, of loving one another. We do not have to owe anything else, but we will always owe the debt of love. But the one good thing about being in debt with love, is that we get something valuable in return. We get a sense of peace and joy; and it causes blessings to fall upon us, which we can receive no other way. So do not look at the situation as a strainful obligation, but as an open door to prosperity; the kind of prosperity, which only our Father God can give.

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