



How to Respond to Grace

God's Plan for Grace and Justice in Society

Romans 12:17

- 1. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone.**
- 2. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.**
¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you,
- 3. be at peace with all men.**
¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but
- 4. leave room for the wrath of God,**
for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.
²⁰ "But
- 5. if your enemy is hungry, feed him,** and if he is thirsty, give him a drink;
for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head."
²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but
- 6. overcome evil with good.**

Romans 13:1

Let every person

- 7. be in subjection to the governing authorities.**
For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.
² Therefore he who resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.
³ For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same;
⁴ for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath upon the one who practices evil.
⁵ Wherefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience ' sake.
⁶ For because of this you also
- 8. pay taxes,**
for *rulers* are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.
- 9. ⁷ Render to all what is due them:** tax to whom tax *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

God's Plan for Love and Propriety in Society

⁸ Owe nothing to anyone except to

1. love one another;

for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law.

⁹ For this, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

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

¹¹ And this *do*, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed.

¹² The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore

2. lay aside the deeds of darkness and

3. put on the armor of light.

¹³ Let us

4. behave properly

as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy.

¹⁴ But

5. put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and

6. make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

1 Peter 2:17 Honor all men; love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

Titus 3:1 Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed,

² to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.

³ For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.

⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared,

⁵ He saved us...

1 Thessalonians 5:1 Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you.

² For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.

³ While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief;

⁵ for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

⁶ so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

⁷ For those who sleep do their sleeping at night, and those who get drunk get drunk at night.

⁸ But since we are of *the* day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

¹⁰ who died for us, that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with Him.

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

Ephesians 4:22 ...in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit,

²³ and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

²⁴ and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;

² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

³ But do not let immorality or any impurity or greed even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

⁴ and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an 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;

⁸ for you were formerly darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light

⁹ (for the fruit of the light *consists* in all goodness and righteousness and truth),

¹⁰ trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹ And do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;

¹² for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.

¹³ But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.

¹⁴ For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, And arise from the dead, And Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵ Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise,

¹⁶ making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

²¹ and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

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