



How to Respond to Grace

God's Plan for Love and Propriety 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.

Romans 1:14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

¹⁵ Thus, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

1 Thessalonians 5:4 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.

Galatians 5:13 ... you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

¹⁴ For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the *statement*, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

¹⁵ But if you bite and devour one another, take care lest you be consumed by one another.

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

¹⁷ For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

¹⁹ Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,

²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

²⁶ Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

Colossians 3:5 ...consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

⁶ For it is on account of these things that the wrath of God will come,

⁷ and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.

⁸ But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth.

⁹ Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices,

¹⁰ and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him

¹¹ -- *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

¹⁴ And beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

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 6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might.

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil *one*.

¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

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