

## Are we IN the LAST DAYS? ~ Romans 13:8-14

→Scripture Reading Rom 13:7-8, 10, 11-12

### INTRODUCTION

**Romans 12:18** (NIV) If it is possible, as far as it depends on YOU, live at PEACE with everyone.

**Romans 12:21** (NIV) Do NOT be overcome by evil, but overcome EVIL with GOOD.

In light of the END of the Age, believers should honor their civil rulers, fulfill the Law of Love, and Walk in the Light of their Salvation IN Christ. HNTC

### Love Does NO HARM ~ Romans 13:8-10

<sup>7</sup>Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

<sup>8</sup>Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.

**Galatians 5:14** (HCS) For the entire law is FULFILLED in one statement: LOVE your NEIGHBOR as yourself.

<sup>9</sup>The commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not covet, and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: Love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>10</sup>Love does NO harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

**James 2:8** (NIV) If you really keep the Royal Law found in Scripture, Love your Neighbor AS yourself, you are doing right.

Jesus does not leave loopholes in the Law of Love. Whenever love demands it, we are to go beyond human legal requirements and imitate the God of Love. LABS

### IMPLICATIONS

**Luke 10:28-29** (NIV) You have answered correctly, Jesus replied. Do THIS and you will live. <sup>29</sup>But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, And who is my neighbor?

**Luke 10:36-37** Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers? <sup>37</sup>The expert in the law replied, "The one who had MERCY on him. Jesus told him, Go and do likewise.

**Colossians 3:12-14** (NIV) Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup>And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

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## Put on the ARMOR of LIGHT ~ Romans 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

**1 Peter 4:7-8** (NIV) The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. <sup>8</sup> Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

**Colossians 1:13-14** (NIV) For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Demonstrating in our **Outward behavior** - the **Inner Reality** of a **REDEEMED Life** MacArthur

## IMPLICATIONS

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**Titus 2:11-14** (NIV) <sup>11</sup> For the **GRACE of God** that brings salvation has appeared to all men. <sup>12</sup> It teaches us to **say NO to ungodliness** and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and **godly lives** in this present age, <sup>13</sup> **while we WAIT for the blessed hope** - the **glorious appearing** of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

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## TAKE AWAY ??

**Romans 13:11-14** (JBP) <sup>11</sup> Why all this stress on behavior? Because, as I think you have realized, the present time is of the highest importance - it is time to wake up to reality. Every day brings God's salvation nearer. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over, the day has almost dawned. Let us therefore fling away the things that men do in the dark, let us arm ourselves for the fight of the day! <sup>13</sup> Let us live cleanly, as in the daylight, not in the "delights" of getting drunk or playing with sex, nor yet in quarrelling or jealousies. <sup>14</sup> Let us be Christ's men from head to foot, and give no chances to the flesh to have its fling.