

## ROMAN LAW

### 38      13: 8—10              The Law Of Love (The Royal Law)

1 Cor. 13 is a study on the subject of love. Rom. 13: 8—10 is a short version which emphasizes how godly love should motivate all a believer does. The conclusion in V. 10 is that *“love is the fulfillment of the law”* (of Moses). I will limit comment to a conclusion. The nature and essence of God is love. His love is expressed in the wonderful plan of redemption and by Christ’s willingness to subject Himself to the lowly earth life—and the ridicule and torture inflicted by the mortals He created and came to redeem. What a contradiction this was and is! And finally, to fully represent Christ on earth, believers need to exude God’s love in everything they say and do.

### 39      13: 11—14              The Law of Redeeming the Time

This law can be simply stated: *“since the time of the Lord’s return is near, we dare not be careless. We must live right, do right, keep our hearts right and be ready for His coming”*. This rule can be applied to both the time of the Lord’s return and to the time of our death. Be ready. As Jesus taught in parable, keep the lamp trimmed and have plenty of oil in reserve. This law calls for the wise use of our time and talents. We are saved to serve. We are expected to multiply our talents. There are lost souls all around us. So we should wisely use our time, talent and empowerment to fulfill our unique role on the stage of history.

### 40      14: 1—17                  The Law of Liberty & Choice

The law of liberty permits us to live according to our conscience as we understand God’s moral law. But in life we influence those around us for good or bad and even when we do things with a clear conscience we may offend others. So at times we may have to set aside the law of liberty and do—or not do—anything that might cause others to stumble and, God forbid, turn away from God. In these situations the choice is ours, but mature believers should be able to deny themselves in order to safeguard the redemption of the young in faith.

### 41      14: 17                      The Law of God’s Kingdom

This is one of the key laws of the kingdom of God: *“The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit”*. This law contrasts internals and externals in Christianity—and comes down on the side of internals. Building on the previous law and discussion, we now see that what we eat, drink, wear, etc. is unimportant in contrast to the value of our inner person. However, if our nature has been changed by our faith and acceptance of Christ’s redemptive benefits; if we have God’s love in our heart overshadowing our decisions and actions; if our faith has been strengthened by the Word of God and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit—we are mature and God is pleased. Therefore we will live accordingly knowing that all is well with our soul—but we will also be willing to avoid doing anything that might be a stumbling block to others. **Phil. 2: 4** affirms that we should *“look out... for the interests (concerns, weaknesses, needs, etc) of others”*. This law of God’s kingdom frees us from the bondage of “do’s & don’t’s” but constrains us to limitations *“for the interest of others”*, which brings us to the law of service.

### 42      15: 1—6                    The Law of Service

Building on the law of God’s kingdom operating in our lives the law of service invites those with strong faith to help their weaker brothers and sisters, put up with the deficiencies of those younger in the faith and help bear their burdens until they are strong enough to walk and work in their own strength and faith.

At times there will be troublemakers, perhaps deceivers, in the fellowship. This law instructs believers to exercise spiritual discernment. With the Holy Spirit's help—either to alert to danger or to prompt to action—we can deal with those situations. We will discern the words and actions of rebels in the flock because we know God's written word and we know the Holy Spirit's prompting. When the unity and purity of the congregation is threatened, discernment calls for us to take remedial action—in love of course.

BarnabasAD

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**The key to redemption and eternal life is *transformation***, which we see in **Romans 12: 1 & 2**. The balance of **chapter 12** shows us how to live in order to please God and inherit eternal life; and the next four chapters reveal additional laws of the kingdom here on earth. But it all begins with the *Law of Transformation— being transformed by the renewing of the mind* (being born again i.e. your spirit quickened and brought into relationship with God)—so that *you may prove* (and live by) *the good, acceptable and perfect will of God*. Notice that the mind is involved and we have a choice to make. That is the way God created and ordained mankind to live. No one is forced to believe or disbelieve, to obey or disobey. God established the rules for His eternal Kingdom and His created beings must live accordingly—or suffer the consequences which is eternal death. The choices are yours, make them wisely.

I would suggest that you review these eight lessons about the **Christian laws** in the Book of Romans several times a year until they become building blocks in your Christian walk. In fact review all 41 lessons from time to time; they will continue to inspire you, and help you become a **mighty man of faith** in God's kingdom on earth.