

Romans 1:8~15
(Verses 14~15, part 2)

Q: Are you a *debtor* to God?

Do you “*Owe*” God anything, for what he’s done for you?

How you answer that question will determine how you live out your life!

How much different would your day to day life be, if you were rich in money, so much that you didn’t have to work another day if you didn’t want too... How different would your day-to-day life be from what it is right now?

Q: Are you a *debtor* to God?

Theologically speaking... I feel I understand what the bible says about salvation... How that nothing I can do, nothing I can produce, has anything to do with God saving my soul...

That is a Most Certain Theological Truth!.....It is **GRACE!** And Grace alone...

But does that mean, that my works are irrelevant?

Does that mean I am free to do what I want with my life?

Does that mean, I am under no obligation at all?

I “*OWE my life*” to God for what he has done for me!

I am “Greatly Indebted” to Him!

(Vs 14a) ¹⁴*I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.*

Now, that he is a Christian, Paul feels an “*Obligation*” to these people... He “*Owes*” it to them...

Beloved, what we see before us, is a “*Result*” of “*Right Theology!*”

The “*Gospel of God*” had accomplished in Paul’s heart, what it had set out to do...

We are often deceived by someone who seems to “know” a lot about the bible... We might say of them, that they are into the “Deep Things” of God! But listen closely to what I am about to say...

If someone truly knows the “*deep things*” of God, it will be manifest in their “*deep love*” for the lost!

Q: How do you pay God back?

Paul would “*SPEND*” the rest of his life, giving back to the one who gave so much to him!
Paul laid down his life for the gospel...

Do you “*Owe*” God anything, for what he’s done for you?...Are you Indebted to Him?

God is amazing... I never cease to be amazed by what he does, especially in his timing... This past Wednesday night, I announced to the Church, that Lord willing, this coming week, we will pay off the loan on this building. We will be “*Debt free*...”

Q: Or will we? *It’s true, we won’t owe the bank anything, but will we be “Debt free?”*

God only knows, how grateful I am, that we are able to pay off this building... Not so much, as to escape the “*interest*” we were paying each month. Not so much in getting out of the “*Mortgage*” on the building. Not so much the issues and concerns that comes with a loan...



The thing I am most grateful to God for is the fact...

That being “*debt free*”, it will “*free us*” from the “*Bondage of financial debt*”, thus, allowing us to “*help pay the debt*” we owe to God!

Watch Video... Tonight, I want to take a few moments, and reflect back on what God has done for us here... I want to remind us of the people “*He sent...*” The “*Provisions*” He supplied...

Beloved, we are far from being “*Debt Free...*” We owe God a great deal!

We owe each one of these people who came under His command, and sacrificed to help us get this building. The Bethel Baptist Builders, FBC Livingston, Cornerstone –SC, Cherokee Masonry, John Edwards team, Red Lick, and on and on... Beloved, these teams were “*Sovereignly Sent*” here by God. I don’t know if you realized this or not, but their labor wasn’t free...

It’s not money that we owe them; they weren’t in it for the money... For they made that clear when they came here to work, they wanted nothing! As a matter of fact, each one spend their own money to come here to help us...

They didn’t come for money, nor did they come so that we could get a new building... To have a more comfortable place, a prettier place...

Every one of these people came here to help us in the furthering of the “*Gospel of God!*” We owe it to these people, to work as hard as they did, to make this place a place where disciples are made! A place that is concerned with reaching the lost with the gospel!

I want to remind us, that their labor was very expensive... it cost Jesus his life! He had to die, to enter their heart, to change their heart, to come to help us! We are in debt to them beloved...

If we would have “*hired*” a contractor to build this for us... we would not be indebted to them, for we would have been “*free of debt*” when we “*paid*” them cash!

But not these folks... **These folks work for the Lord, and it is Him that we owe!** As matter of fact, not only did he have it built, but He paid for it! God is the one who “*gave each of us increase*” that enable us to simply be faithful in the giving of what He gave us to pay for it! Ain’t God good!

We are so indebted to Him!

That raises the question...

Q: How **in this world**, do you pay God back for what He’s done?

Paul tells us in verse 14...

(Vs 14a) Paul says... *I am a “debtor...”*

To fully grasp Paul’s statement, we must look to “*Who*” he is *indebted* too...

...*both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.*

Paul is not speaking to a particular nation or specific groups of people...

In short, Paul is saying, “*I am a debtor to all of mankind!*”

It's a contrast; it's a reference to "*both ends of the spectrum...*"

...both to the *Greeks*, (*the wise*)...
...and to the *Barbarians*; (*the unwise*.)

Both to the "Civilized", and the "Uncivilized..."
To the "Educated" and the "Uneducated..."
To the "Sophisticated" and the "Un Sophisticated ..."

The "Upstanding" in society, and what society labels as the "Scum" of society...

One is seen as a great *asset* to society, while the other is viewed as a *menace* to society!

But Paul sees them both the same way... As those who need Jesus Christ!

There is nothing that gets under my skin more, than when someone feels superior to others. They feel like their better than others. Paul says that one is no better than the other.

There's a classification that is often used to describe people that absolutely "*infuriates*" me! It's when people are put into one of three classes... Upper Class, Middle Class, or Lower Class. The basis for these classes is determined by the amount of money you make! The size of your home, the type of car, etc... That really burns me to the crisp! I know personally, people who have a lot of money, yet are bankrupt when it comes to class! And I know personally, a lot of people, who have no money, yet are rich in class!

Do you see the contrast Paul is trying to make... A Greek would be so much more sophisticated than a barbarian. So much more intelligent, so much more civilized...

Paul excluded no one... **All people** are in need of Jesus!

(Vs 14a) Paul says... *I am a "debtor..."*

Paul says... "*I owe it to these people, to share with them what I know about God!*"

(1Corinthians 9) ¹⁹For *though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.* ²⁰And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; ²¹To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. ²²To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak:

...*I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.* ²³And this I do for the gospel's sake, that *I might be partaker thereof with you.*

Paul offered his life, as payment to God for all of his goodness towards him...

In Romans 12, Paul says this is the least he can do!

Are you ***Indebted*** to God?

Do you "***Owe***" God anything, for what he's done for you?