



# Love: The Law Fulfilled

**Romans 13:8-10**

# Luther's preface to Romans

*“This letter is truly the most important piece in the New Testament. It is purest Gospel.... It is impossible to read or to meditate on this letter too much or too well. **The more one deals with it, the more precious it becomes and the better it tastes.**”*

# Romans 13:7-10 (ESV)

- Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. **Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.** <sup>9</sup> The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

# CK Barret

- *“.....the only debt Christians ought to incur is that which they are **bound** to incur and **can never completely discharge**, which is the debt of mutual love.”*

- True love from God will always bear two outcomes:
  - The law is fulfilled
  - No wrong is done to the neighbor (by neighbor we mean everyone)

- “Plero-o”: Fulfilled; “filled”, “complete” or “full”.
- Usually carries the idea of attaining a standard of measurement, reaching the saturation point or to perform something in its fullness.

- *We can never come to a full understanding of what love is without the law.*
- *We can never come to a full understanding of what the law is without Jesus' demonstration of love for us on the Cross.*

- **NT: God's commandments must be lived:**
- **(1) through a good understanding of Jesus' teachings as found in the Gospels and later by Paul, Peter and John in the Epistles.**
- **(2) in and under the leading of the Holy Spirit.**



# Application

- Diligence in studying the whole counsel of God
- Join a Life Group!
- Know who is, discern and submit to the Holy Spirit
- Ask fundamental questions!
  - “Am I really assured of my salvation in Jesus Christ?”
  - “Am I really assured of the truth that the Holy Spirit is at work in me?”
  - “Am I willing to submit to the Holy Spirit who is now at work in me?”

# Charles Spurgeon

- *“Love is an exotic; it is not a plant that will nourish naturally in human soil. Love to God (and to others) is a rich and rare thing; it would die if it were left to be frost-bitten by the chilly blasts of our selfishness, and if it received no nourishment but that which can be drawn from our own hard hearts it must perish. As love comes from heaven, so it must feed n heavenly bread.”*