

## **LESSON 28: ROMANS 13:8-14:12**

### **The Church and the State**

1. Are there any situations where Christians should not pay taxes (v. 6)?
2. How can a Christian best impact government to the glory of God (v. 7)? What light do these passages cast on Paul's convictions about the sovereignty of God?

### **Living in the Light**

1. What is appropriate behavior for Christians toward others?
2. How does love fulfill the laws listed in verse 9? What actions communicate love?
3. How does the Christian view of time differ from the world's? Why is watchfulness important for the Christian?
4. In what sense has our complete salvation in Christ not yet come?
5. What is the meaning of the commands in verse 12-14? What does the negative and positive of each command say about the victorious Christian life?
6. Why is no difference made between the sins described in verse 13?
7. How does verse 14 summarize the way in which a Christian's responsibilities should be fulfilled to government (vv. 1-7), to neighbors (vv. 8-10), and to God (vv. 11-13)?

## Christian Liberty

1. Why might a Christian be weak in faith? What warnings are given to those on both sides of this dispute (vv. 1-4)? What are the reasons for these warnings?
2. Why are opinions the source of division in relationships in the Church? Why should you refrain from judging other people's opinions?
3. When the Scriptures are not explicit on an issue, how should you decide what is right or wrong (vv. 3-9)? What is Paul referring to when he mentions the one who eats (v. 2-3), the one who observes the day (v. 5-6)? What is his point in verses 7-9?
4. As a Christian, to whom are you ultimately responsible (vv. 10-12)? Why is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ important in this connection? How does this connection rule out criticism of fellow Christians?
5. Why is the command in verse 5, that each one should be fully convinced in his own mind, so important in light of verse 12? What criterion has been suggested as the basis for making decisions?