

**WARUMI 13: 8-14**

Usiwe na deni kwa mtu yeyote, isipokuwa kwa wajibu wa kupendana. Yeyote anayependa mtu mwingine amekamilisha Sheria. Amri, Usizini, usiue, usiibe, usitamani kile wengine wanacho, na amri zingine zingine, zinaingizwa kwa neno moja: Lazima upende jirani yako kama wewe mwenyewe. Upendo haufanyi chochote kibaya kwa jirani; Kwa hiyo, upendo nio unatimiza Sheria.

Unapofanya yote haya, unajua ni wakati gani. Saa imekuja ili uamke kutoka usingizi wako. Sasa wokovu wetu ni karibu kuliko wakati tulikuwa na imani. Usiku umekaribia, na siku inakaribia. Basi hebu tuondoe vitendo vya giza na kuweka silaha za mwanga. Hebu tufanye kwa usahihi kama watu wanaoishi siku, si kwa kugawana na kunywa, sio kulala na tabia mbaya, si katika kupigana na kuvuta. Badala yake, jifunge mwenyewe na Bwana Yesu Kristo, na usitayarishe kujiingiza tamaa zako za ubinafsi.

*Tunaweza kufikiri Paulo maana yake kutuonya tu dhidi ya alama za nje za ulimwengu. Katika kizazi kingine, wahubiri walitumia aya hii kwenye dhambi "kubwa nne": kunywa, kuvuta sigara, kucheza na kucheza kadi. Orodha ya "don'ts" ikawa Mkristo wa muda mrefu ilifafanuliwa na kile ambacho hawakutenda. Ingawa ni vizuri hatuishi kwa sheria, sijui kuacha sheria ambazo tumezifuata zimezalisha wimbi jipya la utakatifu (Pritchard, 2006).*

**Next week:** Romans 14:1-12

**ROMANS 13:8-14**

Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. The commandments, Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: You must love your neighbor as yourself. Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law.

As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

*We could think Paul means to warn us only against the external marks of the world. In another generation, preachers applied this verse to the "big four" sins: drinking, smoking, dancing, and card playing. The list of "don'ts" became so long a Christian was defined by what they didn't do. Although it's good we don't live by the law, I'm not sure dropping the rules we used to follow has produced a new wave of holiness (Pritchard, 2006).*

**Next week:** Romans 14:1-12

**Septemba 10, 2017**

Kuogelea Upstream

Sisi ni wajibu katika mwili wa Kristo kupenda! Weka wakati wa Mungu-weka saa yake-na ushikilie ratiba yake.

### **Hakuna wakati wa kupoteza!**

Hakuna kazi zaidi ya kupoteza, hakuna nyumba ya uvivu zaidi (tazama nini kinachokuja kote kando ya maisha yako!), Na usiruhusu sifa za mahusiano yako zinaonyesha kujitolea kwa wavivu.

### **Badala yake, jifunge mwenyewe na Bwana wetu Yesu Kristo!**

- Weka utakatifu Wake.
- Weka uzuri Wake.
- Weka unyenyekevu wake.
- Weka usafi Wake.
- Weka huruma yake.
- Weka hekima yake.
- Weka msamaha Wake.
- Weka juu ya haki yake.
- Weka bidii yake.
- Weka subira yake.
- Weka imani yake.
- Weka upendo wake.
- Weka maneno Yake kwenye kinywa chako.
- Weka amani yake moyoni mwako.
- Vaa tumaini lake, na uondoe. Itajazwa tena!

**September 10, 2017**

Swimming Upstream

We are obligated in the body of Christ to love! Keep God's time — wear His watch — and hold to His schedule.

### **There is no time to waste!**

No more wasteful activities, no more lazy housekeeping (notice what is accumulating around the edges of your life!), and don't let the attributes of your relationships demonstrate lackadaisical commitment.

### **Instead, dress yourself with our Lord Jesus Christ!**

- Put on His holiness.
- Put on His beauty.
- Put on His humility.
- Put on His purity.
- Put on His compassion.
- Put on His wisdom.
- Put on His forgiveness.
- Put on His righteousness.
- Put on His zeal.
- Put on His patience.
- Put on His faith.
- Put on His love.
- Put His words in your mouth.
- Put His peace in your heart.
- Wear His hope, and give it away. It will be replenished!