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## Romans: Theology 101

"The Fruit of Faith"

Romans 13:8-14

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05-31-20

Introduction: We are in the last section of Paul's letter to the Romans where he is focusing on the practicalities of living as a follower of Jesus.

1. In Paul's mind (as well as Christ's) Christians should be the absolute best citizens in a given community.
2. How would you go about measuring good citizenship?
3. Society is made up of a diversity of people; how can you determine if one person is better than another?
4. We'll wrestle with that question today, but we'll start with the question of worth.
  - All humanity is equal in worth as image bearers.
  - We do not make equitable contributions for the betterment of society.
5. That's where we as Christians should excel. The fruit of our faith should make us the best when it comes to citizenship.

### I. Personal Finances

A. The Principle: "Owe No Man Anything"

B. The Application

### II. Healthy Relationships

A. Loving Our Neighbor

B. Fulfilling the Law

### III. Constant Readiness

A. The Reality of the Rapture

B. Personal Readiness

- Wake Up
- Shape Up
- Look Up

Conclusion: Life can be complicated.

1. The more we simplify, the easier it gets.
2. These verses call us to simplify our lives.
3. By getting out of debt/staying out of debt, we simplify our finances.
4. By loving our neighbor, we fulfill the law & distinguish ourselves as Christ followers.
5. By focusing on eternity, we shine brightly in the midst of a sin darkened world.
6. This glorifies God, demonstrates Christianity is a positive & makes the world a better place.