

## EXCEPT

### **Romans 13:8-10 (NASB77)**

**<sup>8</sup> Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.**

love of God is the primary command and from that comes love to man.

**1 John 4:19 (NASB77) <sup>19</sup> We love, because He first loved us.**

Theme: Debt:

8a. Payables-Debts to be paid off

8b. Un Payable-Can't be paid off

- "Love must remain the root and spring of all our actions; no other principle is needed besides. Pay all other debts; be indebted in the matter of love alone."
- Love, therefore, is shown to be the fulness (not, "the fulfilling") of the law.
- Believers are stewards of all their assets which are given by God
  - Credit is a method of payment based on mutual agreement.
  - Let no debt be delinquent
  - Never assume debt you know you cannot pay

**<sup>9</sup>For this, " YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, " YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."**

List of things that love will not do.

1. If you love your neighbor, you will not commit adultery with his wife
2. If you love your neighbor, you will not murder him or her
3. If you love your neighbor, you will not steal from him
- <sup>4</sup>. If you love your neighbor, you will not desire their possessions

Love then, is not the working of human affection; it is rather the direct manifestation of the "love of God" passing through the heart of the believer out from the indwelling Spirit.

**<sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; love therefore is the fulfillment of the law.**

What a refreshing contrast it is to turn from the old to the new. But, what, it may be asked, is the new spring? It is nothing less than the Spirit of God - "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" ([Rom. 8:2](#)). And what do we get from this source? Why, the first fruit produced by the Spirit is the very thing which the law demanded, but could not produce; namely, *love*!

Every one born of God loves ([1 John 4:7,8](#); [1 Cor. 13:1-3](#)); but it is not after a natural order at all. Man naturally loves because of what the object is. But that is not the way the Christian loves, at least it is not the only way. He loves not merely because of what he sees in another who is naturally amiable and attractive, but because of what the Father has put into him; that is, a new life - a life in the power of the Spirit, a life in the Son who is Love.

George Cutting