

Romans: The Gospel

Awake! Walk Properly

Romans 13:8-1, 2nd Peter 3:1-13, Matthew 25:1-13

<p>Do you get up or sleep in? How do you like to wake up? <i>Gently, breakfast in bed, day off, holiday, late</i> <i>"I'm up I'm up!"</i> What about staying up late? Go to bed early?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Night shifts, health • Circadian rhythm <i>Sunlight wakes, dark sleepy, tech</i> • Diurnal & Nocturnal animals <i>wrong/sick when nocturnal out in day</i>
<p>[Pray] :8-10</p> <p>Don't owe anyone anything...but to love them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • returns things promptly • Bring back better 	<p>Proverbs 3:27-29 - Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in the power of your hand to do so. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you. Do not devise evil against your neighbor, For he dwells by you for safety's sake.</p> <p>Neighbors exist for <u>safety</u>! Nothing worse than dangerous neighbors</p>
<p>The way to be neighborly? Love one another</p> <p>Believer <u>and</u> unbeliever (not only those who love you)</p> <p>My home is for my family Priorities matter</p> <p>Family > neighbors > city > state > country > region > world</p>	<p>The best way to be a good neighbor is to make sure your family is cared for</p> <p>Not caring for my family? My kids will be delinquent and roam the neighborhood</p> <p><i>Oxygen mask on a plane, must put on self first</i></p> <p>If you love your neighbor, you don't need the law to tell you not to steal</p> <p><i>Problem with big cities, strangers, head down</i> "Therefore...love is the fulfillment of the law"</p>
<p>:11 Do this...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitting to government, God over man, loving neighbor

<p>Why? Knowing the <u>time</u>.</p> <p><i>Howdy doody show...first on TV in the morning</i></p> <p>Do you know what time it is in the history of the world?</p> <p><u>The spiritual time?</u></p> <p>What time is it on the spiritual clock?</p> <p>Ticking right up the return of Jesus And that means...</p>	<p>IT'S HIGH TIME TO WAKE UP</p> <p>Alarm clock in the morning Multiple alarms? Snooze? How much time do you need to get ready? Before a flight</p> <p>How long has the spiritual alarm clock been going off?</p> <p><i>2000 years since Jesus rose, ascended, church started, Revelation written</i></p> <p><i>The Christians in Rome were well aware of the spiritual time...are we?</i></p>
<p>Turn to 2nd Peter 3:1-13</p> <p>Peter was in Rome...</p> <p>3:1-9</p> <p>Scoffers - not just unbelievers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sadness of allegorical views, post/amillennial "Rome won" • OT/NT wrath? <p><u>They willfully forget</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you willfully forget? • Homework? To go to the gym? • Things you don't want to be true! (So you can do what you want to!) 	<p>Biblical Patterns: days, weeks, years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 days of Creation, 1 of rest • 6,000 years since creation, fall of man, rule of satan • 1,000 year millennial reign, restoration of man, rule of Jesus • Resurrection & new heavens & earth <p>• Flood judgment, renewed earth</p> <p>The promise? Never flood again But fire? Fire is coming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire judgment, totally new <p>Why is God "slacking" in the scoffer's view? To give spiritual slackers time to repent.</p>
<p>3:10-13</p> <p>How does Jesus return?</p> <p>Like a <u>thief</u></p> <p>You won't expect it, quickly, precisely</p>	<p>Thief comes when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you're not home, for your stuff • when you're home, for you <p><i>Waking up 2x times Thurs 3am for mice</i></p>

<p>Jesus' 2nd coming like the first</p> <p>Days have multiple parts <i>Dawn, dusk</i></p> <p>Multiple parts of a day morning star, dawn, noon, sunset</p> <p>Second coming like evening, reverse of dawn <i>Biblical, Hebrew days begin at sundown...</i></p> <p>Events are more than an instant Vacations, battles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Him air at rapture • Judgment on earth, bowls, trumpets • Triumphant entry, battle, victory • 1,000 year reign <p>People afraid of a 2nd flood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • global warming • It's gonna get much hotter than that! <p>If everything is going to be burned, why do you live for it?</p>	<p>Instead, we should look for and <u>HASTEN</u> the coming. <u>Hasten how?</u></p> <p>Bring in the fullness of the Gentiles Get people saved</p> <p>Not institutional takeover! <i>amillienials think we have to take over everything for Jesus to return</i></p> <p>How lame would that be!</p> <p>If so, we're more than slacking, we've lost and He'll never return!</p> <p><i>Federer match, deuce at least 7x, never ending battle</i></p> <p>Acts 1:10-11 - And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."</p> <p>Our gaze? Look forward to the new heavens and new earth!</p>
<p>Don't stand there idle!</p> <p><i>So heavenly minded no earthly good</i></p> <p><i>If you're truly heavenly minded you'll be the most earthly good</i></p> <p>Back to Romans 13:11</p> <p>When did you first believe? <u>salvation is nearer today!</u></p>	<p>We make the mistake of thinking that the day we believed was our salvation day</p> <p>It was our born again birthday!</p> <p><u>We are being</u> saved, sanctified</p> <p>Salvation is complete at the <u>resurrection</u></p> <p>Totally paid for, not fully realized yet</p>

<p>If the birth day is the emphasis...we end up living for this life</p> <p>But that day saved us for JESUS' DAY</p> <p>Then we live for the next life!</p>	<p><u>That should wake us up</u></p> <p>It was pretty dark the day you got saved personally, right?</p> <p><i>My life situation</i></p> <p>How about in the world?</p> <p><i>9/11</i></p>
<p>The world will wake up when the Day dawns</p> <p>The Christian wakes up when it's still dark</p> <p><i>It's only getting darker</i></p>	<p>So Christian, are you awake? wake up! <u>It's well past time</u></p> <p>we should be doing the things of Jesus' Day</p> <p>It's far past time we stop doing the things of our day!</p>
<p>:12</p> <p>Night far spent</p> <p>Starting to see light over the horizon! The world knows it!</p> <p>Paul said this... a few decades after the resurrection</p> <p><i>Roughly 2000 from 2026</i></p> <p>live like the day of Jesus is at hand...</p> <p><u>because you know</u> this place is burning And the new place is glorious</p> <p><i>Getting saved, nobody had to tell me to go to church, i just wanted to be there</i></p>	<p><i>Became a church junky - I just wanted more of Jesus and new life and to know more of Him, what's coming, and His people!</i></p> <p>We need to wake up, and cast off the covers</p> <p><i>Cosby show, first day of school, Theo getting back under</i></p> <p>We need to <u>cast off</u> the spiritual covers The works of darkness <i>Hide it under a bushel? No!</i></p> <p><i>[The world] would have us be more charitable and not carry matters with too severe a hand. Worldly wisdom recommends the path of compromise, and talks of "moderation." "Yes," says the world, "be spiritually minded by all means, but do not deny yourself a little..." CS</i></p>

**And what do we put on?
ARMOR**

Soldiers being woken up in boot camp

We have to wake up to that and stop pretending being a Christian is about being nice, a comfortable, pleasant life

Or better music, more study, leaving toilet seat down for happy wife happy life

Those things are all good if flowing out of faith

Christian you were drafted into the war you were already a casualty of *You're not living to perfect **this life***

Eph 6:12-13 - Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual [hosts] of wickedness in the heavenly [places]. **Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

**In the night,
we'll need armor of light**

Night vision, IR

**What should we do?
Turn the lights!**

Eph 5:11-14 - And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose [them]. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, **And Christ will give you light.**"

HW Matthew 25:1-13, Virgin lamps, oil, ready

Christian life is not supposed to be a walk in the park

Yet we walk around unarmed, unsuspecting

Half asleep at the wheel!

The Bible says, WAKE UP!

Make the things of heaven the most important things in your life.

:13

**Properly? Honestly, decently
Like you would in the day time**

Society used to be civil

*Kids at school: costumes, pajamas
Walmart, airplane*

Beach "attire" - not scandalous underwear?

Wearing red light district clothes to buy food

<p>It's easy to judge clothes, maybe even rightly</p> <p><u>But what about our behavior, believers?</u></p>	<p>Are we wearing spiritual pajamas? Christianese onesies?</p> <p>Or worse Are we wearing ungodly, worldly, fleshly <u>spiritual</u> attire?</p>
<p>Walk properly, Not in:</p> <p>Revelry - rioting, half drunkenness, frolicsome, late night parties</p> <p><i>College, going from bar to bar in the city, house to house</i></p> <p>Drunkenness - intoxication</p> <p><i>Not just alcohol in our day, pot everywhere! "It's healthcare!" no it's not</i></p> <p><i>The flesh has gotten so high it thinks smoking weed is good for your health</i></p> <p>Lewdness and lust ,Unbridled -</p> <p><i>we fly flags, expose our children, make movies, it's accessible everywhere and in everything - to where kids think they should dress worse than prostitutes and sell themselves online to "fans"</i></p> <p>Word talks of cohabitation if only - <i>that's normal for a "healthy" relationship in the world</i> <i>The world has turned dating into one night stands in an app!</i></p> <p>This is the darkness of the <u>world</u> Christian, you have no place being anywhere near like that</p>	<p>Strife and envy Contention, jealousy</p> <p><i>It's basically the entire economy and corporate world, behind a fake smile</i></p> <p>How are you advancing your life?</p> <p>How are christian ministries advancing?</p> <p><u>It'd better not be through strife and envy!</u></p> <p><i>Lawsuits! Get over it, get over yourself!</i></p> <p>No worse witness than an indecent neighbor!</p> <p><i>One loud party is annoying, but if they're a constant nuisance - you want them out</i></p> <p>The solution?</p>

:14

Put on the Lord Jesus -

**He's our ultimate armor
Our code of conduct**

**A relationship with Him
His life - WWJD?**

Dress for the job you want

**Dress for the spiritual life you
want - this one or the next one**

The life God gave you by dying and rising
again

**Make no provision for the flesh
That's the only way to deal
with the flesh - cut it off**

**This is tough!
Cake out, chocolate in the house
Contraband**

*Don't leave snacks hiding, the flesh will find
them*

*Don't go hanging around outside the place
the flesh likes, it'll go in!*

So Christian WAKE UP

It's late. It's dark. It's evil.

We need to uphold civil society

We do that by upholding righteous
government

We do that by being good Christian neighbors

We do that by being awake and putting on
Jesus and living life not in the flesh
with a renewed, spiritual mind

And a body that obeys His commands

*When i take trips, my kids wake up
Wife wakes up
Stay up or get up when I come home...
Because they love me
And i love them and want to see them
So i tell them to wake up or to stay up*

**Jesus is coming back,
don't you want to set your
alarm for that?**

**Don't you want to be awake
to meet Him in the air?**