

At the start of the Reformation of the Church in Scotland in 1557, John Knox wrote to his congregation before going into exile and said,

*“You are bishops and kings; your wife, children, servants, and family are your bishopric and charge. Of you it shall be required how carefully and diligently you have instructed them in God’s true knowledge . . .*

*And therefore I say, you must make them partakers in, exhorting, and in making common prayers, which I would in every house were used once a day at least.”*

# Let's Worship God

8th-13th July 2013  
Romans



Let's Worship God is a ministry of



Airdrie Reformed Presbyterian Church

[airdrierpcs.org](http://airdrierpcs.org), 01236 620107  
Part of the RFCS - [rpcscotland.org](http://rpcscotland.org)

**Family worship, a joy to be experienced every day!**



Mon.  
8th July

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Who shall bring any charge  
against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 12:14-21 - Loving our Enemies

**notes** Paul has been writing about the affect our salvation should have on how we treat other people. He has spoken of the love we are to show our fellow Christians, but he also writes about the love we should show our enemies. First, we are not to retaliate and hurt them (v.17 and 19). We are to imitate Christ who died for us when we were His enemies. We are not to carry out private revenge or to wish revenge on others in our heart. Instead, when we feel those feelings of anger and desire to strike back boiling up inside of us, we should remember that God who sees all, and knows all, and does not let sin go unpunished will deal with it, and we should leave it to Him. He is the sovereign King, the righteous Judge, and it is His job to administer justice. Yes, He has entrusted some of this work to the civil authorities, but He has not left it to individuals to take the law into their own hands and act through anger and revenge.

Secondly, we are to do all the good we can to our enemies. We are to love them in word and deed. We love them in word by blessing those who persecute us (v.14). We should speak well of them. If there is anything praiseworthy in them, we should honour them for it. We should speak respectfully to them and wish them well. We should pray for them, following the example of Jesus who prayed for His enemies. We should love them in deed (v.20). If we have the ability and opportunity to show kindness and give help, we should. We shouldn't let the evil of others have such power over us that we lose our peace and love and are driven to sin. Instead, we should overcome evil with good, with patient kindness to those who wrong us. In this way we can either defeat or change their plans, or at the least preserve our own peace and keep from sinning in retaliation.

- questions**
1. What are we not to do to our enemies?
  2. What are we to do to our enemies?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 61B:all
1. Pray for your enemies.
  2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
  3. Pray for family matters.



Sat.  
13th July

# Let's Worship God

## Verse To Learn

Who shall bring any charge  
against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 14:1-4 - Scorn and Judge

**notes** It's not so much the difference between Jews and Gentiles that is causing the problem, but the mismanagement of the difference. Those who are strong, know their Christian liberty, and use it, despise the weak who do not. Instead of pitying them, helping them, and giving them meek and friendly instruction, they scornfully trample upon them as silly and superstitious. Those who are weak and afraid to use their Christian liberty, judge and condemn the strong as if they are loose and worldly Christians.

Paul deals with both sides very gently, persuading the strong not to be so scornful and the weak not to be so judgmental. We should receive weak Christians into our midst with readiness, friendliness, and love not to quarrel with him about uncertain points of controversy, which will confuse him and shake his faith. Receive him, not to expose him, but to instruct and strengthen him.

Those who are strong must not despise the weak, and those who are weak must not judge the strong (v.3). Why? Because God has welcomed them, and we should not reject any whom He has welcomed. God never casts off any that have true faith, no matter how weak that faith is. Strong believers and weak believers, if they are true believers, are accepted by God. When we are tempted to scorn or condemn other believers we need to remember that God has accepted them. God not only welcomes them, He holds them up (v.4). The weak may think the strong will fall in his presumption, and the strong may think the weak will sink under the weight of their fears, but if they have true faith and an eye to God, they shall be held up. Their hope is built on the power of God, for God is able to make them stand.

- questions**
1. What is the problem in the Roman church?
  2. What does God do for believers?

- praise pray**
- Ps. 64:all
1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
  2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
  3. Pray for family matters.



Fri.  
12th July

# Let's Worship God

**Verse To Learn**  
Who shall bring any charge  
against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 14:1-5 - Meat and Days

**notes** In the church at Rome there are both Jews and Gentiles. The Jews have grown up avoiding certain meats and celebrating certain days. It's hard for many Jews to just stop doing this. They are still struggling with understanding that Christ has fulfilled the ceremonial law that they have been taught to keep their whole lives. The Gentiles, on the other hand, not coming from such a background, have no problem understanding Christian liberty. Some understand that the ceremonial distinction of meats into clean and unclean is no longer in force, and that every creature of God is good and not to be refused. On the other hand, another who is weak, is not satisfied on this point, but rather inclined to think that meats forbidden by the law are still unclean. Those who think themselves still under some kind of obligation by the ceremonial law respect the times of passover, pentecost, new moons, and the feast of tabernacles; think those days better than other days, and bind themselves to observe them. Those who know that all these things are done away by Christ's coming esteem every day alike, with the exception of the Lord's Day which all Christians unanimously observe. Here in Romans Paul deals with individuals who have been raised to do certain things and it's therefore more understandable if it's hard for them to stop doing it. But in Galatians Paul severely deals with those who have started doing these things because they are told that it is necessary for salvation, and they are forcing others to do these things. The Romans are doing this out of weakness, the Galatians out of wickedness, and so Paul handles them differently. Paul seems willing to let the ceremonial law wither by degrees, and to let it have an honourable burial; now the weak Romans are only following it weeping to its grave, but those Galatians are raking it out of its ashes.

**questions**

1. What was the problem between Jews and Gentiles?
2. What day should all Christians observe?

**praise** Ps. 63:all  
**pray**

1. Give thanks for the freedom we have in Christ.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Tue.  
9th July

# Let's Worship God

**Verse To Learn**  
Who shall bring any charge  
against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 13:1-6 - Authority

**notes** Paul deals with how we are to act as Christians towards those in authority. First we notice that every person is to be subject to the governing authorities. What does it mean to be subject to them? It means to think of them with respect, and to show that respect in our attitude, words, and actions. It means to be obedient to their commands in so far as they do not tell us to sin, for we must always obey God before men, and if we cannot obey without sinning, we must patiently bear the penalty. If this seems difficult to us, remember that Paul is writing to Christians, in a far worse position than we are, living under incredibly ungodly and tyrannical rulers.

Why are we to subject ourselves to the governing authorities? It is the job of authority to maintain order and punish rebellion. So, if we resist authority, we will be punished. But even unbelievers submit to authority because they're afraid of punishment, Christians should submit to authority primarily because it's the right thing to do. God, as the ruler of the world, has appointed these authorities. In the same way that He has given us a power and dominion over the rest of His creation, a power we often abuse and use to sin, He has created authority structures and given rulers a power that they often abuse and use to sin, but the power and authority they have still comes from God. To rebel and resist authority is to rebel and resist God. Yes, there is a place for working to see unjust and ungodly rulers and laws changed and for rulers to hold each other accountable for what they are doing, but personal rebellion like personal revenge is not something the Christian is to be engaged in. Rulers also reflect, albeit very imperfectly, God who is our King, who hates sin and punishes it, and who protects His people.

**questions**

1. How are we to treat those in authority over us?
2. Why are we to submit to authority?

**praise** Ps. 62A:1-6  
**pray**

1. Pray for the leaders of our country.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Wed.  
10th July

# Let's Worship God

**Verse To Learn**  
Who shall bring any charge  
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It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 13:7-10 - Justice and Love

**notes** To be just is to give to all their due, to pay everyone what we owe them, promptly and cheerfully. Our taxes are to be faithfully and conscientiously paid as they become due. Respect is to be paid to all who are in authority over us, whether rulers, elders, parent, employers, as the fifth commandment teaches us. This should be a loving, obedient respect. We are to owe no man anything. That is, we are not to be in anyone's debt when we have the ability to pay what we owe. We should not spend on ourselves what we owe to others.

Whatever we owe anyone can be summed up and including in loving them. To love one another is a debt that we are always paying and always owing. Love is not something that we have freedom to pick and choose if we are going to do it or not. Loving God and loving our neighbour as ourselves is the summary and fulfilment of all the law of God, of all our duty towards God and others. He that loves his neighbour as himself will look after his neighbour's body, belongings, and good name as he would his own. Love does not wrong his neighbour. Instead we are to do all the good we can do toward our neighbour. For it is a sin not only to plan evil against your neighbour but to withhold from doing him good. Love is a living active principle of obedience to the whole law.

**questions**

1. Why are we to give people what we owe them?
2. What sums up the law?

**praise pray** Ps. 62A:7-9

1. Pray that you would love others.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.



Thur.  
11th July

# Let's Worship God

**Verse To Learn**  
Who shall bring any charge  
against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies.  
*Romans 8:33*

**reading** Romans 13:11-14 - Awake!

**notes** It is time for us to awake out of the sleep of sin, out of the sleep of worldly security, laziness, and apathy. We need to wake up. We need to be concerned about our souls, careful about not sinning, ready and serious about doing good, and living in a constant expectation of the coming of our Lord. Consider what time it is. It is the gospel time, it is the accepted time, it is the working time, it is the time when more is expected. It is high time to awake, for others are awake and up about us. It is a busy time, we have a lot of work to do, and our Master is calling us to it again and again. It is a dangerous time. We are in the middle of enemies and traps. It is time to awake for we have slept long enough. Our eternal life is nearer to us than when we first became Christians, so we should pay attention for we are near to journey's end

It is time to dress ourselves. We must put off our night clothes, put off sin, not only stop doing it, but hate it and dread it. We must put on the armour of light, the things God gives us to strengthen us - His Word and prayer. Christians are soldiers in the midst of enemies, and their life a warfare for which they need armour. We need to put on the armour of God (Ephesians 6:13-18). We need to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. Put on the righteousness of Christ for justification; be found in Him as a man is found in his clothes. Put on the spirit and grace of Christ for sanctification; put on the new man. Jesus Christ is the best clothing for Christians to put on, to arm themselves with. Without Christ we are naked and deformed. When we are up and dressed, we are not to sit still but to walk in obedience and newness of life, not in sin.

**questions**

1. Why are we to wake up?
2. Who do we put on?

**praise pray** Ps. 62B:all

1. Pray that you would put on Christ.
2. Pray for a member of your church as per the congregational list.
3. Pray for family matters.