

The Book of Romans, Lesson 8, Romans 1:14-16, "Debtors to Dispense the Power"

↪ As believers, we are, by our very nature, debtors. Debtors to God, obviously; a debt that can never be repaid. But we are also debtors to people. We are indebted to our world because we know how they can escape the wrath that is to come and how they can be made right with God. Paul speaks of this debt in Romans 1:14-16. Everyone has the right to hear the gospel and we are the ones who bear that responsibility to help "Rescue the Perishing."

"Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, snatch them in pity from sin and the grave; Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen, Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save." Though they are slighting Him, still He is waiting, Waiting the penitent child to receive; Plead with them earnestly, plead with them gently; He will forgive if they only believe. Rescue the perishing, duty demands it; Strength for thy labor the Lord will provide; Back to the narrow way patiently win them; Tell the poor wanderer a Savior has died."

↪ We must give of our time, effort and money to get the word out. We have been commanded to do this in Mark 16:15-16" to go work and pray for the harvest, Matthew 9:38, and we should give, 1st Corinthians 16:2. We have an obligation as we are debtors to His commands and the people to whom we have been sent.

1. We are debtors to release the power of God on our world.

- ✓ The gospel, not our presentation of it, is the power of God that saves people, Romans 1:16. It is the power of God that transforms a sinner into a saint because it is the means by which God's righteousness is given to them. It is not the power of God to everyone who does good; it is not the power of God to everyone who attends church; it is not the power of God to everyone who is sincere. It is only to those who believe. Heaven requires you and I to be righteous and that is only something we can receive in spite of who we are as sinners, Romans 1:17. God's righteousness only comes from Him and it comes to us through the gospel if we will believe it. In the gospel, God is saying, "Here is My righteousness, take it or leave it." Many won't take it because requires them to say that their own righteousness is fake and a lie, it's hard to say you were completely wrong!

2. The communication of the power of God is from faith to faith.

- ✓ We believe the gospel by faith and receive God's righteousness, and now we are debtors to provide the same opportunity to others. We believe and receive and then we tell, and from our faith we communicate the message of faith. From faith to faith is God's ordained way of telling the world, not from Angels to faith or from the stars to faith, but from faith to faith.

Our faith is the only launching pad for others to have faith. So, we have to be about getting that word out above everything else. Someone saw to it that we heard the message. We now are debtors to those who haven't had the same privilege that we have had of hearing the gospel.
