

# Defying the Demon of Debt

Text: Romans 13:7-10

**Introduction:** *The Word of God addresses every human need we have. One of the greatest areas of concern to many Americans right now is in the area of finances. News of this past week only verified that now is the time for Christians to rightly manage the resources God has placed at our disposal. The best way to do so is by using the time-tested and proven principles taught to us by Jesus Christ and found in his revealed Word (I Corinthians 4:7,2).*

## I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Debt

Paul is telling us in our text that the magnitude of Christ's love for us is so great (Ephesians 3:17-19), that we can never totally satisfy our obligation to love others (II Corinthians 5:14).

I John 2:15; Matthew 6:24; I Jn.2:16&17

“Regardless of how it seems today, debt is not normal in any economy and should not be normal for God's people. We live in a debt-ridden society that is now virtually dependent upon a constant expansion of credit to keep the economy going. That is a symptom of a society no longer willing to follow God's directions.” (Larry Burkett) “If a person gets his attitude toward money straight, it will help him straighten out almost every other area of life, as well” (Billy Graham) “A man cannot be comfortable spiritually, who is in bondage financially” (Richard Lyman)

## II. The Biblical Argument \_\_\_\_\_ Debt

Deuteronomy 23:19&20 (Exodus 22:25); Leviticus 25:35-37

Deut.15:1-5; Prov.22:7; Deut.28:1,4b&5,12; 15:6; 28:13&14

Philippians 4:19; Matthew 6:28-33; Joshua 1:6-8; Deut.30:1-20

“If you are weighed down with debt, you will have awful diffi-culty moving forward no matter how strong your vision is. You must get completely out of debt as soon as possible to avoid wast-ing your most creative time and energies digging yourself out of a self-imposed pit” (Dave Ramsey) “All of us live under the dicta-torship of debt, and it grows more powerful by the day.....Debt.... has become a modern form of slavery. Unless it is cancelled and the chains are broken, there is no prospect whatever of liberation” (*New Internationalist* magazine)

**Conclusion:** Matthew 19:26; Luke 1:37; Romans 8:31&32,37