**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’ Message # 84 – ‘Be Ready!’**

**April 22nd, 2018**

**Text: Rom. 13:11-14**

Keith M. Doyle, Lead Pastor

Winnetka Bible Church

**I. Summary:**

**1. Section #1: The Righteousness God Requires (Chap.1:1-3:20)**

* **Theme: God's Holiness In Condemning Sin**

**2. Section #2: The Righteousness Christ Provides (Chap.3:21-6:23)**

* **Theme: God’s Grace in Justifying Sinners**

**3. Section #3: The Righteousness the Spirit Produces (Chap.7:1-8:39)**

* **Theme: God’s Power in Sanctifying Believers**

**4. Section #4: God’s Righteousness in Salvation (Chap.9-11)**

* **Theme: God’s Plan to Save His People**

**5. Section #5 – God’s Righteousness in Service (Chap.12-16)**

* + lllus. Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids…
  + Matt. 24:42-44, ***‘…for the son of man is coming at an hour you do not think…’***
  + **Q. *How does the certainty of Jesus’ coming impact your life?***

1. **A Burning Motivation, *‘…Besides this you know the time…’* (11,12a)** 
   1. **Imperatives**
   * **(8…and 11) *- ‘Owe no one anything except to love each other…besides this…’***
   * Besides the motivation that love fulfills the law – you the **‘time’**
   * Chapter 12 and 13 – the radical, Gospel-shaped life Christ’s people live
   * Sleeping/waking metaphors – living with ‘anticipation’ of something!
   1. **Living in the ‘Daytime’, *‘…the day is at hand’* (12)**
   * It’s time to wake up, ***‘…the hour has come for you to wake from sleep’*** (11)
   * Things are drawing towards an end, ***‘…salvation is nearer than when we first believed’*** (11)
   * Nighttime is over…’day’/morning has dawned, ***‘…the day is at hand’*** (12)

**Apply:** Living in the light of new realities – Jesus has won a new day. This changes everything you live for

1. **A Bold Marking, *‘…let us cast off darkness and put on armor of light…’* (12b-14)** 
   1. **Contrast – ‘deeds of darkness…armor of light’**
   * The world and the Devil sell themselves as agents of ‘light’
   * They are dark concerning: glory of God; plight of men; purpose of living; eternity

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   * The world and the Devil sell themselves as agents of ‘light’
   * They are dark concerning: glory of God; plight of men; purpose of living; eternity
   1. **How does Scripture explain light and darkness in the world?**
   * Satan and his minions, ***‘…cosmic powers over this present darkness…’*** (Eph.6:12)
   * Unbelievers are, ***‘darkened in their understanding’*** (Col.1:13)
   * Jesus said He is the Light and if we follow Him***, ‘we will not walk in darkness, but have the light of life…’*** (John 8:12;12:35)
   * Contrasting believers and unbelievers (c/f 2 Cor.6:14,15; 1 Pet.2:9)
   1. **Believers are to ‘put on’ the Armor of Light 12)**
   * To be in ‘the light’ and to be ‘awake’ is to be at war
   * Putting on the ‘Armor’ is putting on Christ (14), ***‘…put on the Lord Jesus Christ’***
   * **What does that mean? What has Paul been saying in Romans?**
     + Put on faith…***’Therefore since we have been justified by faith…’*** (5:1)
     + Put on hope…***’…and hope does not put to shame’*** (5:5-8) If in Christ we are about to be rescued by Him…so put on hope…in Christ…
     + Put on love…***’Let love be genuine…love one another with brotherly affection…’*** (12:9,10) – we can love one another as we are clothed in Christ
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