

***“Make Not Provision For The Flesh”***  
***Romans 13:14***

**Introduction:**

1. Let's Open Our Bibles:
  - Tonight - To Romans 13:
    - As We Continue Looking At:
      - The Enemy Of Our Flesh!
  - The Flesh:
    - Is The Second Spiritual Enemy:
      - That We Need To Fight Against:
        - Even As The Old English Puritan Prayer Reminds Us:
          - “From All Deceits Of The World, The Flesh, And The Devil, Good Lord, Deliver Us!”
    - And - We Need To Keep Praying This Way:
      - Because Of What:
        - Our “Flesh” Has Become!
2. Ever Since The Fall:
  - Sin Has Infected:
    - Every Part Of Our Human Nature!
      - Our Minds!
      - Our Hearts!
      - Our Wills!
      - And Even - Our Conscience!
  - So - The Answer To The Question:
    - “How Far Did We Fall, When Adam Sinned?”
      - Is - All The Way!
    - To The Point That:
      - We Are Told In Romans 8:8:
        - “They That Are In The Flesh Cannot Please God!”
          - In Any Way, Shape, Or Form!
3. When God Opens Your Eyes:
  - To This Condition:
    - It Ought To Cause You To Cry Out:
      - The Way The Apostle Paul Did:
        - In Romans 7:24:
          - “O Wretched Man That I Am! Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death?”
  - Now - Whenever There Is:
    - This Desire For Deliverance:
      - In Your Heart:
        - The Solution To The Problem - And:
          - The Answer To The Question:
            - Is The Same!
  - Remember What It Is?
    - Romans 7:25:
      - “I Thank God – Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!”
4. So - It Is Jesus & His Gospel:
  - That Is The Solution & The Answer:
    - To The Struggles & Sins:
      - Of Our Flesh!
  - This Is Certainly True:
    - For Our Salvation:
      - From Sin! But:
        - This Remains True:
          - For Our Sanctification:
            - From Sin!
  - Throughout Your Entire Life:

- As A Christian!
- 5. And So - There Is A Solution:
  - To The Struggles You Have:
    - With Your Flesh!
    - And That Solution:
      - Is Found In The Gospel!
  - Now - So Far:
    - We Have Seen The Foundation:
      - Upon Which The Victory Over Our Flesh:
        - Is Built!
    - Victory Is Built:
      - On A Two-Fold Foundation!
- 6. First - You Need To Live Your Life:
  - Depending On Jesus:
    - As Your Deliverer!
      - This Is Why Paul Said What He Did In Romans 7:24-25:
        - “Who Shall Deliver Me From The Body Of This Death? I Thank God – Through Jesus Christ Our Lord!”
    - You Will Never Be Able To:
      - Experience Ongoing Victory Over:
        - The Lusts & Sins Of Your Flesh:
          - Unless & Until:
            - You Run To & Depend On The Lord Jesus Christ:
              - To Deliver You When You Are In The Throes Of Temptation & Trial!
  - 7. But Then - Second - You Also Need To Live Your Life:
    - Dwelling With:
      - The Holy Spirit:
        - Who - According To Jesus’ Promise:
          - Dwells With & In Everyone:
            - Who Believes In Him!
      - So - When You Struggle:
        - To Look More Like Christ!
        - To Live More Like Christ! And:
        - To Love More Like Christ!
          - All Because Of Your Flesh:
            - You Need To:
              - “Walk In The Spirit!”
        - Because - As We Found In:
          - Galatians 5:16 - When You Do:
            - “Ye Shall Not Fulfill The Lust Of The Flesh!”
      - 8. Now - In Addition To:
        - Depending On Christ & Dwelling With The Spirit:
          - There Are Other Means:
            - That We Are Given In Scripture:
              - To Overcome Our Flesh!
          - But - They Are Never Done:
            - Apart From:
              - Depending On Christ & Walking In The Spirit!
          - And We Need To Keep This In Mind:
            - When We Consider What Paul Tells Us:
              - In The Verses We Will Look At Tonight:
                - From Romans 13 - Starting In:
                  - 13:11-14!
            - Where Paul Tells Us As Christians:
              - “And that, knowing the time, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed. / The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. / Let us walk honestly, as in

the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. / But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof]!”

- 9. So - As You:
  - Depend On The Lord & Dwell With The Spirit:
    - As A Christian - You Are Given The Responsibility:
      - To Deny Your Flesh:
        - As It Says There In 13;14b:
          - And - “Make Not Provision For The Flesh, To Fulfill The Lusts Thereof!”
- And - In These Verses:
  - We Find Three Things That Have To Do With:
    - Denying Your Flesh:
      - So That You Might Experience Greater Victory:
        - Over Your Flesh!

\* And - The First Thing We Can See From These Verses Is:

**1. *The Practices To Deny!***

- Even - The Practices Of Our Flesh:
  - That We Need To Personally Deny:
    - As We:
      - Depend On Christ & Dwell In The Spirit!
  - In 13:14 - We Are Told To:
    - “Make Not Provision For The Flesh, To Fulfill The Lusts Thereof!”
      - And - In 13:13 - We Find Some Of The “Lusts Of The Flesh” That:
        - Are The Cause Of So Many Of The Temptations To Give In To Our Flesh!
  - These Lusts Of The Flesh:
    - Include:
      - “Rioting & Drunkenness”
      - “Chambering & Wantonness” - And:
        - “Strife & Envying”
  - “Rioting & Drunkenness” Are:
    - Sins Of Self-Indulgence:
      - Because - “Rioting” Involves The Kind Of Behavior That:
        - That Typically Accompanies:
          - Drinking & “Drunkenness!”
      - “Rioting” Also Carries:
        - The Ideas Of:
          - Revelry & Carousing:
            - As Found In Other Translations!
  - So - When Your Flesh:
    - Tempts You To Live:
      - Without Any Restraint Or Self-Control:
        - You Must Not Give In To:
          - That Kind Of Desire!
      - Instead - You Must:
        - Deny Your Flesh - And:
          - “Make Not Provision” For It!
  - After All - This Kind Of Life:
    - Is What The World Often Lives For!
      - With The Philosophy:
        - “Eat, Drink, And Be Merry!”
    - As If Their Own Fleshly Pleasure:
      - Is The Greatest Purpose:
        - In Their Lives!
  - “Chambering & Wantonness” Are:
    - Sins Of Sexual Immorality!
      - While “Chambering” Refers To:
        - Sexual Promiscuity:

- “Wantonness” Refers To:
  - Sexual Perversity & Debauchery!
- And - This Would Include:
  - Any & All Kinds Of:
    - Immorality!
  - Without Any Of The Boundaries:
    - Set Down By God:
      - In His Word!
  - Like All The Letters That:
    - The World Takes:
      - Such Pride In!
- And - Once Again:
  - This Is The Kind Of Life:
    - The World Often Lives For!
  - As If Sex Is All There Is!
    - And - As If Sex & Sexual Deviancy:
      - Is Their Only Identity!
- And - This Is Why
  - When It Comes To The Pull Of Your Flesh:
    - To This Kind Of Living!
  - You Must Deny Your Flesh:
    - And “Make Not Provision” For It!
- “Strife & Envy” Are:
  - Sins Of Immodesty & Pride!
    - Because - As We Are Told In Proverbs 13:10:
      - “Only By Pride Cometh Contention!”
  - So - Having A Hostile & Divisive Spirit:
    - Is Contrary To:
      - The Humble & Gentle Spirit:
        - That Christ Has - And:
          - That Christians Should Be Known For!
  - And - When We Find This Spirit:
    - Coming To The Forefront:
      - In Our Lives - We Must:
        - Deny Our Flesh!
          - And - “Make Not Provision For It – To Fulfill The Lusts Thereof!”
- Of Course - These Are Just:
  - *Some* Examples Of The:
    - Lusts Of Our Flesh:
      - That We Need To Be Wary Of:
        - In Our Lives!
  - But - In Each Of These Practices:
    - We Need To Learn To:
      - Deny Them!
        - By God’s Grace & Through His Strength!
  - Because - These Are All:
    - Sins That Are Related To:
      - Both The Literal & Spiritual:
        - Darkness Of The Night!
    - And This Is Even Why:
      - The Darkness Of Sin:
        - Is Most Comfortable:
          - In The Darkness Of Night!
    - Even As Jesus Said:
      - In John 3:19 - “Men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil!”
- These Are The Kinds Of Practices:
  - That We Need To Deny:
    - In Order To Pursue Victory:

- Over Our Flesh!
- And - As We Do So:
  - We Must Never Forget That:
    - “All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do!” (Hebrews 4:13)
- Sin & Sinners Are Never Hidden:
  - From The Eyes Of God!

\* And That Is Why - As Christians - We Need To Remember:

## 2. ***The Procedure To Deny!***

- That Is - How We Deny:
  - The Drives & Impulses:
    - Of Our Flesh!
  - This Is What Paul Addresses In:
    - 13:14 - When He Says:
      - “Make Not Provision For The Flesh!”
  - This Is An Apostolic Command:
    - That Every One Of Us:
      - Is Responsible To:
        - Hear & Heed:
          - In Our Lives As Christians!
  - The Word Translated:
    - “Provision” - Has The Root Idea:
      - Of Fore-Thought - Or:
        - Thinking About Something:
          - Ahead Of Time!
    - Now - In Most Cases:
      - Fore-Thought Is Much Better:
        - Than After-Thought!
      - Because - Fore-Thought:
        - Can Help You A Lot:
          - In Life!
        - **IE:** Measure Twice / Cut Once!
  - But - This Is Not True:
    - When It Comes To:
      - Our Flesh & Our Lusts! So:
- We Must Not Ponder:
  - The Lusts Of Our Flesh!
    - After All - This Is Where:
      - Yielding To Temptation:
        - All Begins!
    - All Too Often, We Let Our Lusts:
      - Take Root In Our Minds:
        - Until We Finally Act Upon Them!
          - Whether It Involves Sins Of Indulgence, Immorality, Or Immodesty & Pride!
    - Instead Of Pondering:
      - The Lusts Of Our Flesh:
        - What Should We Ponder & Think About Instead?
          - Philippians 4:8 - “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things!”
      - This Is How You Can Have Victory:
        - Over Your Flesh!
          - By Pondering & Thinking About:
            - *These Things* - And:
              - Not Making Provision For The Flesh!”
    - Also - We Must Not Plan:

- Ways To Fulfill:
  - The Lusts Of Our Flesh!
    - After All - This Is Where:
      - Pondering Those Lusts:
        - Will Always Lead!
- When You Make These Kinds Of Plans:
  - You Will Often Consider:
    - The Logistics Of Sin!
      - That Is - Where & When & How Best To Fulfill Them!
- Instead - You Need To:
  - Deny These Plans:
    - And Even, At Times:
      - Deny The Places & Times & Ways That Will Put You Into:
        - The Way Of Temptation!
- In Proverbs 4:14-15:
  - We Are Told:
    - “Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil [men]. / Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away!”
  - Now - Not Only Is This Wisdom:
    - When It Comes To The Paths:
      - Of Others - It Is Also Wisdom:
        - When It Comes To The Paths Of Our Own Flesh!
- And This Too Is How You Can Have Victory:
  - Over Your Flesh!
    - By Making Plans To:
      - Avoid Temptation - Instead Of Making Plans:
        - To Fulfill The Lusts Of Your Flesh!
- But Also - We Must Not Provide:
  - For The Flesh:
    - So As To Feed It:
      - What It Wants & Desires!
  - God Has Given:
    - To Each One Of Us:
      - Senses - Which Serve As:
        - Gates To Our Souls!
    - So - We Need To Be Careful:
      - With What We Let Through:
        - Our Eye Gate!
        - Our Ear Gate!
        - And Even Our:
          - Mouth & Nose & Touch Gates!
  - **IE:** Remember The Song We Used To Teach Little Children? “O Be Careful Little Eyes What You See?” Shouldn’t This Still Apply To Us! And Even More So?
  - Another Way The Bible Describes This:
    - Is In Terms Of Sowing & Reaping!
      - So - In Galatians 6:7-9 - Paul Tells Us:
        - “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. / For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. / And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not!”
  - So - To Have Greater Victory:
    - Over Your Flesh:
      - You Need To Stop Sowing To It - And:
        - Stop Feeding It:
          - What It Wants!
    - Which Is Anything That:
      - Promotes Indulgence & Immorality & Immodesty!
- And - This Is The Procedure:

- That Each One Of Us Needs To Put In Place:
  - In Our Lives - On A Daily Basis!
  - So That We Will:
    - “Not Make Provision For The Flesh, to Fulfill The Lusts Thereof!” (13:14)
- But - Maybe You Feel Like:
  - You’ve Tried This - Even Many Times!
  - But Have Failed!
- Well - We Also Need To Remember:
  - That We Must Never Divorce:
    - Self-Denial From:
      - Depending On Jesus - And:
      - Dwelling With His Spirit!
  - And This Is Why:
    - Paul Also Describes:

### 3. ***The Power To Deny:***

- That We Can Find:
  - In Our Lord Jesus Christ!
    - Again - 13:14 - “But Put Ye On The Lord Jesus Christ!”
    - This Is The Power That Lies Behind:
      - Any Procedure:
        - To Deny Any Practice:
          - Of Our Flesh!
    - To “Put On The Lord Jesus Christ” Means:
      - That As A Christian:
        - There Needs To Be:
          - A Daily & Deliberate & Decisive Renewal:
            - In Your Relationship With & Walk With The Lord Jesus Christ!
    - **IE:** So - As You Would Change Your Clothes Each Day - You Need To Dress Yourself Up In Christ Each Day! But, How?
  - Each Day - You Need To:
    - Resign Yourself To Jesus:
      - As The Lord & Master:
        - Of Your Life!
    - To Put On The Lord Jesus Christ:
      - Means That Each Day:
        - You Renew Your Submission:
          - To His Authority & Control:
            - In Your Life - No Matter What!
    - This Also Means That:
  - Each Day - You Need To:
    - Receive Jesus:
      - And Even A Daily Dose:
        - Of The Gospel Of His Grace!
    - To Put On The Lord Jesus Christ:
      - Means That Each Day:
        - You Remind Yourself Of - And:
          - Renew Yourself In:
            - The Good News Of Jesus Christ!
    - **IE:** Like A Nice Shower:
      - Will Prepare You For A New Day:
        - So Will The Refreshing Droplets:
          - Of Gospel Blessings:
            - Prepare You For The Day Of Struggle:
              - Against Your Own Flesh!
    - So - Each New Day Of Your Life Requires:
      - Fresh Repentance:
        - Of Your Sin!

- Fresh Reception:
  - Of Christ's Grace Through Faith! And:
- Fresh Rejoicing:
  - In The God Of Your Salvation!
- Every Day - You Can Experience What Jeremiah Experienced:
  - In Lamentations 3:21-23 - "This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. / It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. / They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness!"
  - But Then - Also:
- Each Day - You Need To:
  - Resolve To:
    - Deny Yourself & Your Flesh:
      - Take Up Your Cross:
        - And Follow Jesus!
  - And - In This Way:
    - Daily & Deliberately & Decisively:
      - "Put Ye On The Lord Jesus Christ!"
        - Because He Alone Can Provide The Power You Need:
          - To "Make Not Provision For The Flesh!"

**Conclusion:**

1. So - As You:
  - *Depend* On Jesus:
    - As Your Deliverer! And:
      - As You *Dwell* With & Walk With:
        - The Holy Spirit:
          - *Deny* The Lusts Of Your Flesh:
            - So That You Might Experience Greater Victory In Your Life:
              - Every Day!

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