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The Law Of Human Obligations
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Our lives are made up of relationships, horizontal relationships on every level and if our relationships are not good, then our lives are lacking in many areas. We see this all around that relationships are in trouble.

Our most important relationship has to be with the Lord Jesus Christ, this relationship has to be number one. God has intended that relationships are to be fulfilling, they were started by Him,

Gal 5:14 "For the whole Law [concerning human relationships] is complied with in the one precept, you shall love your neighbor as [you do] yourself " AMP

We think that relationships are complicated and they seem to be, but if we will follow God's handbook for them, relationships will be made easy and beneficial for us. There is only one precept, that we love others as ourselves.

1 Cor 14:1 "Eagerly pursue and seek to acquire [this] love [make it your aim, your great quest]; and earnestly desire and cultivate the spiritual endowments ([gifts](#)), especially that you may prophesy (interpret the divine will and purpose in inspired preaching and teaching)." AMP

Paul makes love his quest. If we are having trouble with relationships, maybe we are not walking in love; we need to be searching for that love. If we break God's law we will get hurt and probably will be hurting someone else, this law is what governs relationships.

When sin began with Adam and Eve, they became self-conscious and selfish.

The opposite of the God kind of love is not hate, but is selfishness.

The following is a comparison of God's kind of Love as found in 1 Corinthians chapter 13 and Selfishness.

Love endures long and is patient and kind - Selfishness is irritable, cannot endure opposition, is impatient with others to the point of being unkind.

Love is never envious does not give way to jealousy - Selfishness desires things

others have, is possessive and filled with jealousy.

Love is not boastful or vain glorious, does not display itself haughtily - Selfishness talks only about itself and its interests and accomplishments, is disdainful and cold, is prideful and conducts itself high and has a distant manner.

Love is not conceited, arrogant, or inflated with pride - Selfishness has a high opinion of self, is overbearing and filled with pride.

Love is not rude, does not act unbecomingly - Selfishness is rude and sometimes throws temper tantrums.

Love does not insist on its own rights or on its own way, it is not self seeking - Selfishness always insists on its own rights, has no regard for others feelings, opinions or needs of others, seeks only its own wants and desires.

Love is not touchy, fretful or resentful - Selfishness is easily upset and hurt, frets about what others are doing, allows resentment to build in its heart.

Love takes no account of the evil done, pays no attention to suffered wrongs - Selfishness counts up and takes note of evil done and nourishes a suffered wrong.

Love does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness - Selfishness takes satisfaction and rejoices when others get their just dues.

Love bears up under anything and everything that comes - Selfishness is unstable and cannot cope with life's ups and downs.

Love is ready to believe the best of every person - Selfishness believes every bit of gossip and passes it along as the truth, refuses to see the potential of a person, majoring on their faults.

Love's hopes are fadeless under all circumstances - Everything selfishness produces fails.

LOVE NEVER FAILS! - SELFISHNESS NEVER WINS!

1 Cor 13: 4-8 "Love endures long and is patient and kind; love never is envious nor boils over with jealousy, is not boastful or vainglorious, does not display itself haughtily. 5 It is not conceited (arrogant and inflated with pride); it is not rude (unmannerly) and does not act unbecomingly. Love (God's love in us) does not insist on its own rights or its own way, for it is not self-seeking; it is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it [it pays no attention to a suffered wrong]. 6 It does not rejoice at injustice and unrighteousness, but rejoices when right and truth prevail. 7 Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are

fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening]. 8 Love never fails [never fades out or becomes obsolete or comes to an end]. As for prophecy (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose), it will be fulfilled and pass away; as for tongues, they will be destroyed and cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away [it will lose its value and be superseded by truth]." AMP

God intended for us to operate out of His love and allow His love to flow out of us, but sin and the devil stopped that flow and we became selfish creatures. Out of that selfishness we look for others to fulfill or complete the need in our lives and make us happy.

Consequently, inside we make lists of what we expect others to do for us that will make us happy and call these lists "the law of human obligations". They are all about making "me" happy. This is built out of insecurity because we don't feel that good about ourselves; we need someone else to "fix" us. Disappointments come as a result of our depending on others to fulfill our needs.

As far as The "law of human obligations" when it comes to living in harmony and peace with one another is not the answer. God never intended for us to control a relationship. His plan was that we take dominion under His leadership and not on our own. Decisions made apart from God will not succeed.

When we are not submitted to the law of love from God, we tend to take illegal, illegitimate control. How do we try to control illegally? There are basic 3 ways through which this is done.

- 1) Intimidation - anger, ill temper, bad moods, harsh and cutting words, we say "if you don't do what I want you to do, it will get ugly"
- 2) Domination - being bossy or overbearing, critical or picky, trying to control the actions of another person
- 3) Manipulation - pouting, withdrawal of affection or attention, using guilt, tears

1 John 3:4 *"Everyone who commits (practices) sin is guilty of lawlessness; for [that is what] sin is, lawlessness (the breaking, violating of God's law by transgression or neglect—being unrestrained and unregulated by His commands and His will)." AMP*

What is the commandment of God? The commandment is to love the Lord and to love your neighbor as yourself. If you break this commandment you sin. The obligation to walk in love is our part not someone else's.

Luke 6:31-32 *"And as you would like and desire that men would do to you, do exactly so to them. 32 If you [merely] love those who love you, what quality of credit and thanks is that to you? For even the [very] sinners love their lovers (those who love them)." AMP*

This is what God intends to happen in order for people to change, doing for them what you would like for them to do to you. Planting love in their lives. We cannot point out others faults and expect them to do what we want. In the Old Testament God gave the law, but realized that it was impossible for it to work. These laws were for the outside and needed to be on the inside.

We need to read Paul's account in Romans chapter 7 regarding the law and how hard it was to follow it. However, after Jesus came, with the new covenant, it was possible because the law was on the inside and not just on the outside.

Heb 8:10 *"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will imprint My laws upon their minds, even upon their innermost thoughts and understanding, and engrave them upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people."* AMP

Roman 5:5 *"Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us."* AMP

We have the "law of love" down on the inside of us now because of what Jesus has done for us. The "law of love" makes relationships work, not depending on someone else to fulfill our needs. No matter how much we want to fulfill another's desire, we and they are unable to fulfill what God has provided for us.

Luke 6:41-45 *"Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye but do not notice or consider the beam [of timber] that is in your own eye? 42 Or how can you say to your brother, Brother, allow me to take out the speck that is in your eye, when you yourself do not see the beam that is in your own eye? You actor (pretender, hypocrite)! First take the beam out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye. 43 For there is no good (healthy) tree that bears decayed (worthless, stale) fruit, nor on the other hand does a decayed (worthless, sickly) tree bear good fruit. 44 For each tree is known and identified by its own fruit; for figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor is a cluster of grapes picked from a bramblebush. 45 The upright (honorable, intrinsically good) man out of the good treasure [stored] in his heart produces what is upright (honorable and intrinsically good), and the evil man out of the evil storehouse brings forth that which is depraved (wicked and intrinsically evil); for out of the abundance (overflow) of the heart his mouth speaks."* AMP

When there are problems in relationships, there has to be a heart change, inside not on the outside. Influencing another person's heart is by sowing good seeds, it is the only way that there can be a change, God must do the changing, we cannot. God is in control of the heart, He looks on the inside.

Pro 21:1 *"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as are the watercourses; He turns it whichever way He wills."* AMP

If there are problems in a relationship of any kind, we need to go "vertical". The "horizontal" is planting the seed that we want to reap. This is where relationships begin to be healed.

Make a commitment to the Lord, releasing all other people that you are expecting to fulfill your life, not making demands on them for anything. Our demands must be on God. He will meet all the needs that we have. Doing all that you can to love them as the Lord loves you and meets their needs. Be a blessing to them.