

A Debtor's Prison

“Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour”.

Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law”, Romans 13:7-8.

In England many original ‘debtor's prisons’ were established during the early to mid 1800's, where magistrates and judges committed those who owed money to another until the debt was cleared.

Because debtors could bring their families with them to a debtor's prisons, they quickly became a communal.

In the early days of debtor's prisons, the number of debtors generally outnumbered the criminals, debtors were kept separate from the criminals, and were released when their debt was cleared.

Today we have two major debt prisons, and both are sourced for the same reason, **TO GET WHAT WE WANT NOW.**

David, nearly three thousand years ago, was led by the Holy Spirit to compare the life styles of the Godly and ungodly in Psalm 37 with the words, “The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again...”, Psalm 37:21.

Today we have two distinct debt prisons,

1. The Credit Card - physical,

I have known, and met Christians who, if they put just the minimum payment on the Credit Card, might just be able to purchase enough food for the family!

2. Satan's hold on our lives with his scheming and sinful entrapment -

spiritual,

Jesus **NEVER** implied that He would make us the wealthiest people in the world.

A taxation officer was sent to assess an elderly Christian man regarding the possible payment of his taxes.

After the opening pleasantries, the taxation officer asked, "What property do you possess?"

"I am a very wealthy man," replied the Christian.

"What do you own" asked the assessor.

The elderly Christian answered, "I have everlasting life", John 3:16.

"I have peace", Philippians 4:7.

"I have God's Love", 1 Corinthians 13:8.

"I have a faithful wife", Proverbs 31:10.

"I have healthy and happy children", Exodus 20:12,

The tax assessor closed his book, and said, "Truly you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to taxation."

Jesus **DID** Promise us untold riches in this LIFE.

Jesus **NEVER** Promised to supply our every WANT.

I have known, and met Christians who, on a Sunday morning have had an immense struggle with a two dollar coin, and the decision "Do I put it in the offering, or do I keep it for the parking metre when I do the shopping tomorrow?"

Jesus **DID** Promise to guide us, and help us meet our NEEDS.

Jesus **DID** Promise that everything we stored in Heaven would be waiting for us when we entered eternity, Matthew 6:19-21.

Jesus **DID** Promise that everything we needed would be made available to us, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these

things shall be added unto you”, Matthew 6:33.

For those not prepared to ask for God’s Blessings, there is a Debtors Prison awaiting their arrival in eternity.