

## Our Present Obligation (vv. 12-13)

**VERSE 12 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh –** (Ἄρα οὖν, ἀδελφοί, ὀφείλεται ἑσμέν οὐ τῇ σαρκὶ τοῦ κατὰ σάρκα ζῆν *(conj. ara so then + conj. oun + noun voc.m.p. adelphos + noun nom.m.p. ophieletes obligation + pres.act.ind.1p. eimi + neg. ou + d.a.w/noun dat.f.s. sarx flesh + d.a.w/gen.nt.s. + prep kata + noun acc.f.s. sarx + pres.act.infin. zao live]*)

**VERSE 13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die** (εἰ γὰρ κατὰ σάρκα ζῆτε, μέλλετε ἀποθνήσκειν· [*part. ei if + conj. gar for + prep kata + noun acc.f.s. sarx + pres.act.ind. 2p. zao live + pres.act.ind.2p. mello must + pres.act.infin. apothnesko die]*); **but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live** [εἰ δὲ πνεύματι τὰς πράξεις τοῦ σώματος θανατοῦτε, ζήσεσθε [*part. ei if + conj. de but + noun instr.nt.s. pneuma + d.a.w/noun acc.f.p. prazis what one does, practice + d.a.w/noun gen.nt.s. soma body + pres.pass.ind.2p. thanatao put to death + fut.act.ind.2p. zao live]*).

ANALYSIS: VERSES 12-13

1. “So then” (Ἄρα οὖν) is an inference drawn from the previous context which informs believers that we have been liberated from the slave market of sin and death.
2. Our new status places us under an obligation, and that obligation is not to live our lives according to the flesh.
3. Our Ph 2 obligation is to live according to the indwelling Holy Spirit which is only implied in these two verses.
4. As a believer you are not obligated to anyone or any activity no matter how appealing or worthwhile and fail to uphold the directive will of God and its righteousness.
5. Prior to salvation believers were held captive by things which did not commend themselves to God, but in fact rendered them hostile to God (Eph. 2:3; 4:22).
6. There are the many who will try to convince you that you are obligated to engage in pursuits and attitudes that are not conducive to the maturity adjustment.
7. You are not in debt to your lust pattern.
8. Verse 13 presents the two consequences of following the law of sin versus the law of the Spirit (both indwell us).
9. Those believers who give themselves over to the dictates of the flesh “must die.”
10. This is not referring to temporal death, namely being out of fellowship (cf. Jam. 1:15).
11. It refers to the sin unto death, which is the end-result for all believers who die physically maladjusted (1 Jn. 5:16-17; Jam. 5:19-20).

12. There are examples in Scripture of believers who died the sin unto death (Exodus Generation, King Saul).
13. And there are examples of those who came close to dying the sin unto death (Isaac, Samson).
14. For CA believers this is the norm as few will inherit the crown.
15. Those who maintain the Rebound adjustment and resist the lure of the flesh to the end “will live.”
16. How do we put to death the deeds of the body?
17. Constant application of Rebound (Eph. 4:22b “you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit.”; Col. 3:5 “Therefore consider the members of your body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”).
18. Continually involved in the intake of BD to the end of Ph 2.
19. Being a doer of the Word not just a hearer.
20. Living by faith, and not sight.
21. Putting to death the STA includes Rebound and resisting temptation.
22. To be “alive” is to live the CWL as a positive believer.