

RESPONSIBILITY

The image features a solid blue background with a gradient from light to dark. The word "RESPONSIBILITY" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered horizontally. In the bottom right corner, there are several white, parallel diagonal lines that create a sense of motion or a stylized graphic element.

What is Responsibility?

- ▶ Webster: 1. Liable to be called on to answer.
 2. Able to answer for one's conduct or obligation.
 - Answerable, accountable
- ▶ Used of one who realizes his obligations and carries them out, and thus he can be counted upon.
 - Reliable, trustworthy.
 - **E.g., Job 1:8, 2:3**

What is Responsibility?

- ▶ **Responsibility** means YOU are responsible and accountable
 - It is something that is your obligation to do and for which you will have to answer.
- ▶ “Ability + Opportunity = Responsibility”
- ▶ Spiritually, we have responsibilities. Clearly addressed in scripture – from examples to God’s instructions for which we are accountable!

You cannot avoid your responsibility

▶ **We ALL have responsibility**

- They may differ from others, but we have them

Romans 12:3-8

Philippians 2:12 – work out your own salvation

You cannot avoid your responsibility

▶ **One day we will give an accounting**

- **2 Corinthians 5:10** – Judged based on the choices we have made

- **Revelation 20:11-13**

- **Matthew 12:36** – every idle word

You cannot avoid your responsibility

▶ **You cannot blame others for your failures**

– We live in a society where many refuse to take responsibility.

▶ The first step to dealing with addiction, failures – acceptance – take responsibility



You cannot avoid your responsibility

- ▶ **You cannot blame others for your failures**
- ▶ Don't blame others!
 - **Genesis 3:12-13**
 - **Ezekiel 18:20**

You cannot avoid your responsibility

- ▶ **You cannot blame others for your failures**
- ▶ In judgment, you will answer for YOU – NOT your parents, children, elders, false teachers, friends, environment, etc.
- ▶ Their actions WILL have a bearing on your life – but ultimately, you control your own destiny
- ▶ And THEY will answer for their decisions and actions affected you and others!

You cannot avoid your responsibility

- ▶ **You cannot blame Adam or previous generations**
- ▶ Many today blame Adam for their sins. They profess that we cannot help but sin!
 - We do SUFFER because of his sin and inherit the consequences (**Romans 5:12-13ff, 1 Corinthians 15:21-22, etc.**)
 - BUT scripture teaches we are accountable for ourselves
- ▶ There are MANY examples of behaviors despite upbringing, environment, etc. The TOOK responsibility for themselves

You cannot avoid your responsibility

- ▶ **You cannot claim ignorance**
- ▶ Ignorance does not change reality
- ▶ **Acts 17:30-31**
Romans 10:2-3 – they were ignorant of God's righteousness
- ▶ God's word is available to all and understandable –
Ephesians 5:17, 2 Timothy 2:15

You cannot avoid your responsibility

▶ **You cannot claim ignorance**

▶ Paul continually challenged brethren to not be ignorant –

1 Corinthians 12:1

2 Corinthians 1:8

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – He taught because ignorance is not an excuse before God

You cannot avoid your responsibility

▶ **Unbelief will not excuse you**

▶ **Mark 16:15**

▶ Far too many refuse to believe God and His word.
Many KNOW what He says but refuse to believe

▶ Jesus dealt with unbelief –

John 8:46 – they did not want to believe

John 3:18-20 – men loved darkness rather than light

You cannot avoid your responsibility

- ▶ **Unbelief will not excuse you**
- ▶ **Hebrews 3:12** – even Christians can become unbelievers
- ▶ Many think they are ok, but they are not – **Matthew 7:21-23**
They profess to know Him, but in works deny Him – **Titus 1:15-16**
- ▶ In this world you can CHOOSE to reject God's word and warnings. But you WILL be responsible for your choices. **2 Thessalonians 1:6-9**

How much responsibility do I have?

- ▶ FIRST, **only you can answer that.**
- ▶ We are all different with different abilities and responsibilities.
 - The parable of the Sower –
Matthew 25:14-30
 - **1 Peter 4:11** – the ability which God supplies

How much responsibility do I have?

- ▶ Are you privileged?
How blessed are you?
What do you have the resources to accomplish?
E.g., **1 Timothy 6:17-18** – the wealthy are to not trust in their riches and to do good.
- ▶ With privilege comes responsibility
– cf. **Romans 12:3-8, 1 Peter 4:11, Ecclesiastes 9:10**

How much responsibility do I have?

- ▶ Consider also your opportunities
 - ▶ **Galatians 6:10** – as we have opportunity, let us do good to all...
- cf. An open door –
1 Corinthians 16:9, Colossians 4:3, Revelation 3:8, etc.
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How much responsibility do I have?

▶ **Apply this to obeying the gospel!**

God wants you to be saved

▶ **2 Peter 3:9, 1 Timothy 2:4**

How much responsibility do I have?

- ▶ **Apply this to obeying the gospel!**

Do you have the ability to obey?

- ▶ If you have understanding you can. God's standard is knowable!
- ▶ You can obey the gospel – **Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38**
- ▶ If you have wandered away you can come back – **James 5:19-20**
Acts 8:22, 1 John 1:9

How much responsibility do I have?

- ▶ **Apply this to obeying the gospel!**

Do you have opportunity to obey?

- ▶ You are here and can do what needs to be done.
- ▶ Consider Jesus as He taught
 - **John 12:42-43** – they believed but did not confess
 - **Matthew 11:20-24** – woe to you
 - **John 15:21-25** – they had heard, therefore they had no excuse

How much responsibility do I have?

▶ **Apply this to obeying the gospel!**

- IF you have ability and opportunity, then you have responsibility to obey!

And one day, when you stand before God, you will be responsible for this!

**WILL YOU TAKE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR
YOURSELF?**

A series of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom-left towards the top-right, located in the lower right quadrant of the image.

Let us pray!

