

*Congressman Bachus received the following e-mail from a constituent, Donna Evans of Birmingham, on July 29 regarding the debate over the debt.*

Congressman Bachus:

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another." Romans 13:8 (NIV)

Wednesday's *USA Today* headline simply read, "The Debt." If ever two words illustrated the difference between repentance and remorse, that headline with those words did. For the economic crisis facing the United States is not just "the debt;" it's our debt. Remorse labels the crisis "the debt has lots of regrets;" repentance names it, appropriately, "our debt" and accepts personal responsibility.

Two weeks ago in Washington, DC, my youngest son, Daniel, and I stood at the top of the Washington Monument and looked out at the sprawling city. Our tour guide informed us that monument construction stopped in the 1840s because the government ran out of money. The work resumed in the 1870s and was completed a few years later. No funding, the Civil War, and national reconstruction all contributed to the forty year delay. I was looking out one observatory window when Daniel quietly asked me, "Mom, do you get it?"

Puzzled, I responded, "Get what?"

"They stopped building because they didn't have the money; we would have borrowed and kept building," he said.

God's Word is very clear; debt is bondage.

As I looked at the "The Debt" USA Today headline, a little praise and worship chorus from the seventies came to my mind and has been with me the last two days:

**He paid a debt He did not owe;  
I owed a debt I could not pay;  
I needed someone to wash my sins away.  
And, now, I sing a brand new song,  
"Amazing Grace."  
Christ Jesus paid a debt that I could never pay.**

**\*\*\* Lyrics by Ellis J. Crumb**

As you read and listen to all of the news surrounding our debt crisis, take a few moments and thank God for the One who removed the debt of our sin by shedding His own blood on the cross. Christ Jesus, who "gave His life as a ransom for many." Matt 20:28

Donna Evans

Birmingham