

13. How can we *be devoted to prayer* on each other's behalf this week?

Quotes to Ponder

We should never be concerned about personal vengeance but about the glory of God and His holy name; and if we are not concerned about that, there is something wrong with us.

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Revenge is not a bad thing. It is a good thing, because God takes revenge. Therefore, revenge in and of itself is not evil. What makes it evil is who undertakes it. Revenge belongs to God.

R.C. Sproul

The best way to destroy your enemy is to make him your friend.

Abraham Lincoln

If you are suffering from a bad man's injustice, forgive him lest there be two bad men.

Augustine

To allow an insult or personal wrong to occupy your mind with revenge is like putting a poisonous snake in your pocket and carrying it everywhere you go — to be bitten again and again.

Stephen Davey

Doing good to all is something to be planned and not just willed.

Paul does not want Christians to use the inevitability of tension with the world as an excuse for behavior that needlessly exacerbates that conflict or for a resignation that leads us not even to bother to seek to maintain a positive witness.

Douglas Moo

I will not let any man make me lower myself by hating him.

Booker T. Washington

"Do not avenge yourselves." That means never. Fighting back is not Christian. "But surely I have to stand up for my rights," you say. Do you? If you want to stand up for someone's rights...stand up for someone else's rights, fight for them. Do not fight for yourself, at least not if you are serious about obeying God & following Jesus.

James Montgomery Boice



Message #100: When Wronged, Do Right

January 22, 2017

Sermon Notes

1. Do Not Pay Back Evil With Evil (17a, 19a, 21)

2. When Wronged, Do Right (17b, 18, 20, 21b)

A.

B.

C.

3. Leave All Vengeance to God (19b)

1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?

2. When is it okay to pay back evil for evil (*Romans 12:17*)?

3. Are we to punish those who do evil against us (*1 Thessalonians 5:15; 1 Peter 3:8-9*)? Defend your answer biblically. Explain the difference between vigilante law and legal punishment (*Romans 13:4*).

4. Why is it important to think ahead of time of your response to those who might wrong you (*Romans 12:17*)? What else should characterize our response?

5. How do you reconcile what Jesus said in *Matthew 10:34-36* with what Paul writes in *Romans 12:17-21*?

6. What is comforting about what Paul says in *Romans 12:18*?

7. What is our responsibility in making peace with our enemies? How far should we go in making peace?

8. Why are we told not to avenge ourselves (*Romans 12:19*)?

9. What do you accomplish by showing kindness to your enemy (*Romans 12:20*)? What does this mean?

Is Paul telling us that doing good to our enemies is an indirect way of punishing them? Explain.

10. If we pretend forgiveness in order to make our enemy feel guilty, why haven't we fulfilled *Romans 12:19-21*?

11. How do we overcome evil according to *Romans 12:21*?

12. **Reflection Questions:** Is there someone in your life who had done you evil? What wrong responses are you tempted to? What would it look like for you to overcome evil with good in that specific situation? What actions could my enemies cite to show that I have tried to take revenge against them? By what specific action this week can I demonstrate love to one who is my enemy?