

A Commentary on the Book of Romans – Volume 6



Pastor Paul Hamilton

**Bible Baptist Church
Str. Olimpică 12
Chișinău, Moldova 2019
Tel. 022-286-173; 069-922-700; 079-609-850
www.biblebaptistchurchmoldova.com**

Romans Lesson #55

Romans 12:1

Romans 12:1: ***"I beseech you therefore..."*** He is begging his listeners because of all the preceding blessings. Because of what was said in **Romans 1-11**.

Romans 11:30: There is only ONE HIM: the Lord Jesus Christ. He said, "Because everything comes from God, I am begging you for."

"I beseech you, therefore, brethren..." This is not just for preachers. This is for the general audience and the average person.

"I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God..."

Do you know it is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed? The reason we are not going to hell it is because of God's mercy. ***"Not by works of righteousness which we have done but by his mercy he saved us..."*** It is not because of our good works.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present..." We say "present," meaning, giving someone a gift. Here, though, he wants you to present. He wants you to present your body.

"...present your bodies a living sacrifice..." He is not asking you to die physically. He wants you to present your bodies a living sacrifice.

How?

“...holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

It is reasonable for you to give your life to Jesus Christ and serve Him.

What I want to preach to you is that it is not an unreasonable request for God Who made you, to ask you to give Him your body.

That means your fingers, your eyes, your ears, your feet, your heart, your mind.

God wants me!

Romans 12:1: What does it mean here? Does God have any right to your body?

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

Your body is the temple of God. The temple of God is to be holy.

1 Corinthians 6:19: ***“What? Know ye not that your body is the temple...”*** If you are saved, the Holy Ghost is in you whether you are aware of it or not. When I got saved, I did not know the Holy Ghost moved in. I just knew some things had moved out. Brother, when the Holy Ghost moves in, something else moves out.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20: ***“...for ye have been bought with a price...”*** What price? It is the precious blood of Christ. I am talking about the blood of the everlasting

covenant.

“Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God’s.”

Your body is God’s, and you might not give it to Him. God owns your body. I wonder: are you letting Him have rights to what He owns?

Let me ask you: What could God do if we presented our bodies as a living sacrifice?

If your mouth is God’s, you would be opening your mouth and talking to people about Jesus Christ. If your eyes were God’s and your fingers were God’s, your mind was God’s; you would read your Bible and assemble with God’s people. You would pray.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Romans 12:1

Did Jesus Christ present His body as a sacrifice for you?

Yes. He is not asking you to become sin. He is asking you to be holy! He became sin, so you are to be holy! When He presented His body a sacrifice, He took the sins of the whole world upon Himself. He took the sins. Now, He wants you to be holy. He says that is your reasonable service.

Now, if you present something to somebody, you are yielding it voluntarily. You are a volunteer!

Exodus 29:37: Notice the word “altar.” That is an

altar on which you would place a sacrifice. If you are talking about altering your life that would be “to alter.” But an “altar” is where you place a sacrifice. When you present your body as a living sacrifice, you have to think about an altar.

Verse 37

When you present your body as a living sacrifice, it is holy and acceptable unto God. Notice that when you touch the altar, it becomes holy. God wants you present your body that way.

We will have an altar in the sanctuary upstairs. In the olden days, they called it a mourners’ bench. People came to an altar to humble themselves. If you come to the altar, it may alter your life.

Exodus 29:37

Are you willing to give God your body a living sacrifice? Do you know what took place at the bottom of the altar? There was fire. You know what happens when you get on that altar? It gets hot. You will have the tendency to crawl off the altar.

You see, when God turns up the heat in your life, a living sacrifice will have the tendency to get off the altar. So, you have to keep putting yourself back on the altar.

A dead sacrifice never goes to the altar. Whatever touches the altar will be holy.

A living sacrifice. Remember Isaac trusted his dad,

Abraham, who walked with God. He said, “I do not know how to tell you this, but God told me to offer you up as an offering. I believe it was God.” The son did not argue or talk back. Abraham said, “I believe in your seed all the families of the earth shall be! I do not understand, son, but I am to put you to death.” Abraham believed God was able to raise his son from the dead. Isaac was on that altar as a living sacrifice.

Romans 12:1

- Sacrifice: whatsoever touches the altar shall be holy.
- A living sacrifice tends to want to get off the altar and then keep getting back on.

You may think, “What is the matter with me? I went to the altar last week.”

2 Samuel 24:24

If it did not cost you anything, God does not accept it. So, when you present your body as a living sacrifice, it is going to cost you something.

You will have to give up this or that. Shelling out money will hurt. Do not ever offer God something that does not cost you something.

2 Corinthians 8:5: “*First gave there ownelves...*”

To whom? “...the Lord”

They belonged to Him already. He purchased you, but it is perfectly right to present your body to God, not for sin but to be holy!

2 Corinthians 8:5

The first thing a Christian ought to do is give God their body.

Brother, it is because of the mercy of God that I am not going to hell. Brother, He became a man, and He died for me. He is asking me to give my body.

Exodus 32:29: “Consecrate yourselves today...” I will do it next way. No, God wants your life now. If you are not willing to do it now, that means you have your own agenda. Why should I consecrate myself?

“...that he (God) may bestow upon you a blessing this day.”

God wants me to suffer. God wants me to burn. Have you ever seen a Christian sold out for Jesus Christ who is miserable?

You may present your body as a living sacrifice. You need to do it lovingly. When you see somebody crawling on the altar and off the altar, you need to have a spirit of love.

1 Corinthians 13:3

When you put your body on the altar, and you ask God to turn up the heat. Notice, ***“...and though I give my body to be burned and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”***

When you give yourselves to be a living sacrifice you need to say, “God, help me to be loving towards others.”

Romans 12:1: “...your reasonable service...”

1 John 5:3: “...his commandments are not grievous.”

Why do people have such a hard time serving the Lord? Because no man can serve two masters: either you love the one and hate the other. The reason, sometimes, that people have a hard time living for Jesus Christ is they still want to live for the world; or they try to live for self and for Christ. When you sell out to Jesus Christ and become a living sacrifice for him, it is not grievous. It is actually worthwhile.

Philippians 1:20: “...now also Christ shall be magnified in my body...”

Whatever comes my way, Christ is to be magnified in my body.

Presenting your body as a living sacrifice is not above the call of duty. The Bible says, “**...it is your reasonable service.**”

Numbers 8:9-11: “And Aaron shall offer the Levites before the Lord...” There are no Levites dying here. They are being presented as a living sacrifice. **Verse 11:** What are the Levites being offered for? The service of the Lord. **Verses 12-13:** offering to the Lord! **Verses 13-14:** Offering yourself to the Lord is not just so you can be affective for service, but it is separating yourselves for the Lord. **Verses 15-16**

You are to offer yourself unto the Lord.

Three reasons to sit in the front row at church:

1. It leaves a positive attitude about Christ.
2. It gives you the impression that you are happy to be in God's house.
3. That you are willing and eager to hear His Word.

Daniel 3:22-25

When you present your body as a living sacrifice, Jesus Christ is there with you. That is the fellowship of His sufferings.

Verse 28: "...they trusted in God... and yielded their bodies..."

Luke 2:22: They even had to present Christ to the Lord.

Have you presented yourself to the Lord? The Lord died for you. "You know, Lord, I have taken advantage of your salvation." "Lord, I am not completely yours, but I want to present myself to You so that I will be more yours. By your grace and help I want to present my body to you a living sacrifice."

Romans 8: If you present your body as a living sacrifice, **Luke 9:23** says, ***"If any man will come after me (Jesus), let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."***

If you are going to take up that cross every day, it is going to cost you something. Do you know what the altar was that Jesus was offered up on? The cross.

If you take up that cross daily, it will cost you something.

Romans 8:36

Matthew 10:38

Can you imagine the Lord shows up and says you not worthy of me? That would hurt!

John 12:24

You want to be a Christian that gets people saved? You have to die.

1 Corinthians 15:31: *"I die daily"*

2 Corinthians 4:10

Philippians 3:10: *"That I may know him and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his suffering being made conformable unto his death."*

That is the heart of Christian living. You will never know the power of the resurrection unless you die.

2 Corinthians 4:10-12

My job as a preacher is to die and be a hermit. There are some preachers who are starving for attention and need fellowship. I am totally happy being by myself with God.

Verse 12

Remember, the more death in the pulpit, the more life there will be in the pew.

Galatians 2:20; 6:14

He says, “The world does not mean anything to me, and I do not mean anything to the world.”

Romans 12:1: We are talking about surrendering. ***“And be not conformed...”*** You are a nonconformist. ***“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed...”*** On every street, they have a transformer for the electric. You may have 30,000 volts going down the street, there is a transformer that puts it into the house as a current to be useable. You see, it is power that is harnessed and changed.

Verse 2. When you get saved, you need to be reprogrammed.

Is your all on the altar?

Lesson 55 Questions

1. Romans 12 is just for preachers.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. Why are you not going to Hell?
 - a. God's Hope
 - b. God's Mercy
 - c. God's Mistake
 - d. God's Favor
3. God saves you, but He does not own your body.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. What kind of sacrifice gets put on the altar?
 - a. Living
 - b. Dead
5. We have a tendency to:
 - a. Sacrifice ourselves too much
 - b. Die on the altar
 - c. Crawl off the altar
 - d. Run away from the altar
6. Why do people have a hard time serving the Lord?
 - a. They want to sacrifice something else
 - b. They do not want to go to church
 - c. They do not like preachers
 - d. They want to live for the world
7. Why should you sit in the front row at church?
 - a. It leaves a positive attitude about Christ
 - b. It gives the impression you are happy to be at church
 - c. It shows you are willing and eager to hear the Bible
 - d. All of the above

8. How often do you have to take up your cross?
 - a. Daily
 - b. Every time you witness
 - c. Every time you go to church
9. You will never know the power of the resurrection unless you _____.
 - a. Live
 - b. Die
 - c. Sacrifice
 - d. Preach the gospel
10. "And be not conformed to this world, but be ye _____..."
 - a. Transformed
 - b. Redeemed
 - c. Justified
 - d. Altered

Romans Lesson #56

Romans 12:2

Romans 12:1: *"I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God..."*

People ask all the time, "Why should I?" Because of the mercies of God. It is the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed. Because His compassions fail not; they are new every morning. The Bible says, ***"Not by works of righteousness that we have done but according to his mercy he saved us."*** It is by mercy He saved you. ***"I beseech ye therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your body..."*** It does not say that He wants you to present your life. God wants you to present your body a living sacrifice. Have you ever heard somebody say accept Christ into your life? That is not in the Bible. Do you know the Lord comes into the devil off and on? Anyone to whom you have ever witnessed, it is the Lord Who has come into their life. That is why you are witnessing to them. The Bible says, "Christ in you the hope of glory." Christ is not asking for your life. He is asking for your body. Because if he has your body, He will have your life. Life is a period of time: it is a space.

Romans 12:1: *"...present your body a living sacrifice..."*

Is the cross a Christian symbol? No, it is a Roman symbol. The Jews did not crucify people. Rome did. The cross is not a Christian symbol. You see, if Christ was hung by the neck until dead, would we hang little hang man's

nooses around our neck? If Christ was shot, would we hang a gun around our necks? The cross is not the Christian symbol. Wearing a cross is a pagan symbol. It was a form of death to our Savior. Did you know satan-worshippers have lots of crosses they worship? The world thinks the cross is a good luck charm.

Romans 12:1: “...a living sacrifice, holy...” God wants you to be clean, and pure, **“...acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service...”**

Lesson 56 Questions

1. By God's _____ He saved you.
 - a. Patience
 - b. Mistake
 - c. Hope
 - d. Mercy
2. We need to accept Christ into our lives.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. The Lord can enter the devil.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. The cross is a _____ symbol.
 - a. Christian
 - b. Roman
 - c. Pagan
 - d. Both b and c
5. Wearing a cross can bring luck/blessing because of what it symbolizes.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Romans Lesson #57

Intoxicated Pride

Romans 12:1-8

Verse 1: Paul is begging his listeners not to forget the mercy of God. Do not forget what God has done for you. It is because of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed. His compassions fail not. His mercies are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness.

Notice that he says you are to ***"present your bodies..."*** God says He wants the believer's body. He says, ***"...to present your bodies a living sacrifice unto God which is your reasonable service."*** He says, "That is the least you can do." The very first thing you do after you get saved, you are to present your body to God as a living sacrifice so you can become his servant. ***"You are not your own, for you have been bought with a price therefore glorify God in your body and your spirit which are God's."***

You are to put yourself on that altar and becoming a living sacrifice. If you are a living sacrifice, and you are on the altar. If you study it, many altars in the Old Testament did not have any fire underneath it. Brother, when that fire is turned up in your life as an altar and a living sacrifice, you have the tendency of wanting to crawl off the altar.

Here is one of the solutions to help you not crawl off the altar.

The Bible says, ***"Bind the sacrifice with cords..."*** Maybe you need to bind that thing down. That way, it will

be a little harder for you to crawl off the altar.

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.”

You are to give God first and present your body as a living sacrifice. Notice the result:

Verse 2: “And be not conformed to this world...”

Your to be a nonconformist. It says, ***“Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”*** You are renewed by the Bible. **Verse 2**

So, you are to put God first. Well, I think the most important thing is winning souls. It is not. The most important thing is that you will hear is to love God with all your heart and soul and mind.

Verse 1 represents dedication.

Verse 2 represents transformation.

If you dedicate to God, you will be transformed. Let's say you are a saved person who has been born again. Then you dedicate yourself to God. Then you are a changed person, you are transformed, and you are not the same person.

Verse 3 represents evaluation.

All of the sudden, you are dedicated, transformed. You can get proud. So, **verse 3** is put there for a check.

Verse 3

He is talking about how you estimate yourself. All of

the sudden, you think you have arrived. Brother, I am saved. I am dedicated. You think you are somebody, and then God says, “You are a nobody.” It is kind of like the church where everybody is somebody.

This is not the church where everybody is somebody. This is the church where everybody is nobody. You have to get to the place in your walk with God where you realize you are nothing, and Jesus Christ is everything.

Verse 3: “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think...”

What if you did think highly of yourself? It is pride, exaggerated ideas, self-worth, self-importance, and overestimation of self.

1 Corinthians 4:6

That is talking about preachers. If you put preachers up on a pedestal, you will get disappointed.

Verse 6: Notice you are to learn: “...*not to think of men above that which is written...*”

If we learn not to think of men above that which is written, there is nothing to get proud about.

The Bible says, “*The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked...*”

Does that mean only unsaved people? Did you know that you can be saved in this room and your heart be desperately wicked? You are capable of committing the

worst atrocities. The Bible says, ***“In the flesh dwelleth no good thing.”***

We are not to think of men above that which is written.

“Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.”

The prouder you are, the more likely you are to fall. The higher you get, the harder it is going to hurt.

John 15:5: Jesus says, ***“Without me you can do nothing.”***

1 Corinthians 10:12

What would a man do falling? He thinks more highly than he ought to think.

2 Corinthians 3:5

There is no self-made man in this room.

2 Corinthians 3:5

You are not to think of men above that which is written. You are not to think more highly than you ought to think.

Galatians 6:3: ***“For if a man think himself to something...”*** I wonder if they will notice me. I wonder if they see my good qualities. I wonder if they realize how smart I am. I wonder if they notice my new clothes.

I am telling you that we think of ourselves too much.

Humility is not thinking little of yourself. It is not thinking of yourself at all.

When Jesus came to this earth **Philippians 2**, He made himself of no reputation. We want everybody to think how wonderful we are. Now God's here because I am here.

You would not believe what people think.

Verse 3

You are nothing, that means you cannot save yourself. You cannot dress yourself unless God gives you strength in your muscles.

Verse 3: Misha (Budecheni) Lady wanted a Bible.

If you humble yourself, you will be exalted. The way up is down. Many people want to be up on top. The Bible says, ***“He that exalteth himself shall be abased but he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.”***

“Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

Remember: In recognized weakness, lies God's strength.

Galatians 6:3

1 Corinthians 8:2

None of has arrived. We are not to think of men above that which is written.

Psalms 62: One of the advantages of Humility. The

Bible says, ***“Only by pride cometh contention.”*** If we have a church where everybody thinks they are somebody, we are going to have a church with strife, contention, and splits. ***“Only by pride cometh contention.”***

If we humble ourselves, guess what happens to our marriage. The contention and pride goes out. Your marriage stays together. Marriage is not 50/50. It is a 100%/100%.

Psalm 62:8: Why should I trust in God at all times?

Verse 9: ***“Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie...”*** Would ye rather be vanity or a lie?

Have you ever noticed the proudest people are the most educated people? The most stubborn people you know are the most educated people.

Verse 9: ***“To be laid in the balance...”*** In other words, you lump them all together—the guy that did not graduate from high school and the one who has PhD (Post-hole digger).

God says, “Put them both on the scale. The flunky and the intelligent guy. Notice, “They are altogether lighter than vanity.”

God says that we are not to think of men above that which is written. He says, “When you think you are somebody when you are nothing, that is a problem. All of us are lumped together dumb, educated, or not educated: It does not amount to anything in God’s eyes.

God says if we were all put on a scale, we are lighter than vanity. Vanity is empty, nothing. This will help your prayer life, your witnessing, and it will help your marriage.

Verse 9

God says that we are less than nothing. Nothing would outweigh everybody in the world. Now who are we?

The number one reason people go to hell? Pride. ***“God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble.”*** The only way you can get saved is by grace. “Well, I think...” God is resisting you!

Psalm 39:4-5: “...mine age is as nothing before thee...” Well, I am the oldest in this church! Compared to God, my age is nothing.

Verse 5: “...Verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.”

When you realize you are nothing, and God is everything, it makes you want to get on your face and say, “God you are everything to me! I am nothing without you!”

Proverbs 28:21

The most important person you know, if you put him up on a pedestal and think he is somebody, the Bible says that when he is given the opportunity, he will eventually sin and do just like you do.

Proverbs 28:21

Luke 14:7

People are walking, and they are wanting the best seat in the house. **Verses 8-10**

He said, "You need to assume the lowest position." When you come to church, back there in my old church, I was a deacon. I led the songs. Back there, I did this and that; but here you are going to sit and listen for a while. You say, "You do not realize my potential." Just because you were good there does not mean you will be good here.

Let's see if you can sit here a year and take this preaching.

Luke 14:11

If you humble yourself, God will exalt you.

Here is the problem: people say, "You have to believe in yourself." The Bible says, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit."

They will tell you that you need to believe in yourself. The Bible says that he that trusts in his own heart is a fool. You are not to believe in yourself.

The Bible says, ***"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..."***

People say, "You have to have self-confidence." Paul says to have no confidence in the flesh. "Well, I believe in self-esteem." No, you are to esteem others better than yourself. "Well, I think I am self-sufficient." We are sufficient of ourselves to think anything of ourselves. "Well, I believe in self-worth." No, worthy is the Lamb!

Some say, "You have to love yourself before you can love others."

Luke 14:26

You have to realize you are nothing and abhor yourself.

The Bible says in **Psalm 10:4**: "***The wicked through the pride of his countenance will not seek after God.***"

You know why men do not pray? Pride. They are self-sufficient they do not need God.

Psalm 36:11 Is that a good prayer to pray?

Verse 12: "***There are the workers of iniquity fallen...***" That is referring back to pride. When you start thinking too much of yourself, you will go down.

"Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Verse 12

Psalm 73:6. You know what a chain does? It restricts you. A chain will put you in bondage. It will keep you from moving. Pride is not your friend.

Verse 6: When you are proud, you are shackled. You are not going anywhere. Pride stops the power. Pride stops the flow. Pride stops the communication. Pride stops the answer to prayer.

Psalm 119:21

Proud people do not obey the Word of God. Humble people obey and submit to it.

Pride leads to lying.

Proverbs 28:25

Proverbs 21:24: Pride leads to anger. Pride leads to lying and stirring up contention.

Nebuchadnezzar said after he was humbled: ***“Those that walk in pride he is able to abase.”***

How can we avoid pride?

Reading the Bible will remind you who you are. **Deuteronomy 17** teaches that reading the Bible will keep you humble and close to God.

Romans 12:3: You are to think soberly.

What would that tell you about pride? When a man is humble, he is sober. He is thinking right when he is humble. That tells you pride makes you intoxicated.

Obadiah 3

When a man gets drunk, he does things he normally would not do.

You are to think soberly.

When we go out of here, we should be a bunch of sober people. There are people going out of churches today who are intoxicated on pride. You have some preacher pumping them up and telling them how wonderful and

great they are because they want your money.

Romans 12:3-5

We have a part in being balanced. God uses a humble church.

Verses 5-8

You are to rule with diligence.

Proverbs 29:10

There will be people who hate you as a Christian. While there seeking us, we are supposed to try to win them and get them saved.

“He that sheweth mercy with cheerfulness.”

Lesson 57 Questions

1. Many altars have what underneath them?
2. We are to be nonconformists.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. Romans 12:3 represents:
 - a. Transformation
 - b. Evaluation
 - c. Dedication
 - d. All of the above
4. Lifting up preachers will always encourage you.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Humility is thinking:
 - a. A lot about ourselves
 - b. A little about ourselves
 - c. All about ourselves
 - d. Nothing about ourselves
6. God's strength lies in:
 - a. Recognized Strength
 - b. Rejuvenated Hope
 - c. Recognized Weakness
 - d. Realized Expectations
7. Marriage is 50/50.
 - a. True
 - b. False
8. You have to love yourself before you can love others.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. What is a reason many men do not pray?
 - a. Ignorance

- b. Fear
 - c. Dishonesty
 - d. Pride
10. How can we avoid pride?
- a. Run from it
 - b. Sell your possessions
 - c. Pay more attention to others
 - d. Read your Bible

Romans Lesson #58

Romans 12:9-11

Commandments for Christians

Romans 12:9: “Let love be without dissimulation...”

What is the opposite of Love? Hate.

“Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor...” That is another word for hate. If you abhor something you hate it. You despise it you detest it. So, love and hate are in the same verse. He does not just say love. The world looks at Christians and says, “Aren’t you supposed to love?”

People think as Christians we are to love everything. There is something wrong with a love that loves everything, including the devil.

The Bible says, **“Let love be without dissimulation...”** Then it tells you that you have to have an intelligent love. You, as a Christian, are supposed to hate some things.

“Abhor that which is evil...” Notice the next thing in the verse: **“Cleave to that which is good.”**

You have to have a discerning spirit. You are supposed to tell the difference between right and wrong. You are supposed to reject the evil and choose the good.

“Abhor that which is evil (that is the negative) ...cleave to that which is good.”

That is an intelligent love.

“Let love be without dissimulation...” Dissimulation means without partiality. We are very quick at picking favorites. In other words, let love be without hypocrisy.

2 Corinthians 6:6: *“Love unfeigned...”*

Remember, when a prophet one time asked a woman: ***“Why feignest thou to be another?”*** Why are you pretending to be something you are not? So, it says, ***“...by love unfeigned...”*** That means an unpretended love.

Just because you put on a plastic smile does not mean you have love in your heart. He says, ***“By love unfeigned.”***

It says, ***“Let love be without dissimulation...”*** without partiality, without hypocrisy. Then he says, ***“Let love be unfeigned...”*** You are not to pretend you love somebody.

1 Peter 1:22

Not a fake love. God wants people who are real. Don't you like somebody when you meet them, and they are just genuine? They are not fake or trying to impress somebody. They just are who they are.

We are talking about love unfeigned.

Luke 6:32

It is easy to like somebody that likes you. Do you like somebody who does not like you?

Romans 12:9: *“Let love be without dissimulation...”*

You not to have fake pretended hypocritical love.

Notice the word “abhor.”

Abhor means to hate. **Verse 9.**

Let me prove to you that is New Testament.

The list of commandments for the believer is in **Romans 12.**

Hebrews 1:8: Notice, the Father calls Him “...***the son God.***” If God the Father calls Jesus God, we better believe that Jesus is God.

Verse 8: This is the father talking about Jesus Christ.

Verse 9: “***Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity...***”

“Abhor that which is evil, cleave to that which is good.”

“Therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.”

You really want God to give you the power and anointing of the Holy Ghost? Then you have to love righteousness and hate iniquity.

You have to take a stand. Some of you are trying to stay in the middle. Well, Pastor, I do not want to offend. I do not want to make waves.” You are to love righteousness and hate iniquity. Then, God will give you the oil of gladness and the power of the Holy Ghost on your life. That Holy Ghost will make you

happy.

“Abhor that which is evil, cleave to that which is good.”

Hebrews 11:13: “...were persuaded of them and embraced them...” To embrace means to cleave.

The Bible says, ***“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and cleave unto his wife and they twain shall be one flesh.”***

Cleaving to your wife is like embracing your wife.

Verse 13

You need to embrace the promises and commandments of the Bible.

1 Thessalonians 5:21: “Prove all things...” That is what we are doing. ***“Prove all things hold fast to that which is good.”***

He is giving you all kinds of expressions just in case you cannot get one of them. ***“Abhor that which is evil, cleave to that which is good.”*** Hebrews said that they embraced the promises. Here it says, “Hold fast that which is good.”

The power of negative thinking will keep you out of trouble. The power of positive thinking will put an ecumenical world together that the antichrist will lead. He will say, “Love, Love, Love...” God says, “Let love be without dissimulation!” Oh! We are not supposed to hate! It says, “Abhor that which is evil!”

- Hold fast that which is good
- Embrace the promises

Psalm 97:10: “Ye the love the Lord, hate evil...”

Who wrote that? A man after God’s own heart.

Verse 10: You are to hate some things.

Proper love should hate.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-3, 8: There is a time to love and a time to hate.

Amos 5:15: “*Hate the evil, and love the good...*”

Hating evil would speak of repentance. Before I put faith in Jesus Christ, I hated my life. I was sick of the world. I hated myself and everything this world had to offer. I hated the evil but did not know what the good was.

Verse 15

Ruth 1: Orpah and Ruth’s mother-in-law was Naomi. Orpah and Ruth married Naomi’s son. Naomi’s husband dies. A terrible thing happens Ruth and Orpah. There are now three widow ladies, and Naomi wants to go back to Israel. But these two ladies who married her sons, were not Jews. The Bible says, “***Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clave...***”

There is a difference between a kiss and a hug. Ruth went back with Naomi to Israel. Ruth is an example of cleaving to that which is good. There are people who give God lip-service. They give God a kiss, but it is another thing to cleave to Him.

Romans 12:9-10

You need to love new Christians like they are your brother.

Verse 10

That is Like Abraham and Lot. Brother, if you read **Genesis 12** when Abraham and Lot were not getting along, the servants fought, and it was time to split up. Abraham is the eldest, and he has the right. He says, "Lot, you pick, and I will go in the other direction."

Lot lifted up his eyes and noticed the plain was well-watered toward Sodom. Lot took off with everything else. God says to Abraham, "You see all this land? It is all yours."

What is that?

God is going to give them everything, 360 degrees. Eventually, it all turns out to be Abraham. God gave it all to Him, in every direction. (That is perfect example in honor, preferring one another.)

Philippians 2:3

If we did this, there would not be any problems. If everybody esteemed each other better than themselves, there would not be any problems in here. We would get along in perfect harmony. The Bible says, "***Only by pride cometh contention...***"

Philippians 2:3-4: That means you as a Christian should not be selfish.

1 Peter 3:8: “Finally...” (In other words, here is the bottom line, the conclusion)

“Be pitiful...” That does not mean you act pitifully or look pitifully. Pitiful is a compound word. It means you are to be full of pity towards someone else. It means you care about someone else.

Verse 8.

Romans 12:10 & Ephesians 5:21

We are to submit ourselves to one to another in the fear of God.

Romans 12:10

How do we be kindly affectionate one to another? What is brotherly love? How do we ***“in honour prefer one another”***?

1 Corinthians 13:4

Charity is a better word for love because you can love somebody without giving, but you cannot give without loving.

“Charity suffereth long...” Imagine this: “Vanya suffereth long... Vanya envieth not... Vanya vaunteth not himself... Vanya does not behave himself unseemingly... Vanya seeketh not his own... Vanya is not easily provoked... Vanya thinketh no evil... Vanya rejoiceth not in iniquity... Vanya rejoiceth in the truth... Vanya beareth all things... Vanya believeth all things, Vanya hopeth all things... Vanya endureth all things...”

If you put your name in the blank, it is kind of embarrassing. That hurts. How does it fit you? Real love you cannot get them mad easy.

Romans 12:10-11

“Not slothful in business; Fervent...” That is like a fever. ***“Fervent in the spirit, serving the Lord.”***

Business is not just how you make money.

Let me show you how business can be used in the Bible.

Luke 2:48-49

Serving Jesus Christ is your Father’s business. The Father’s business is people getting saved.

Romans 12:11: ***“Not Slothful...”*** Slothful is a compound word. Sloth—there is an animal which is sloth. When I think of a sloth, I think of something that is slow. If you study the sloth and run that through the Bible, you would also see a slug. Do you know how those things move?

A slug is gross, despicable, ugly. That is how God looks at someone that is lazy.

Romans 12:11: ***“Not slothful in business...”*** Not slow in business. Not lazy in business. Notice he tells you the opposite: ***“Fervent in the spirit, serving the Lord...”***

It is not serving the boss. It is not self-serving. It is serving the Lord.

The people who work hard get more jobs offered to

them. If you have slow, lazy work-ethic, you will not succeed.

Matthew 25:14-15

So, there are three guys. One gets five talents, one gets two talents, and another gets one.

Verses 16-17

So, they made 200%. That is a pretty good investment. One invested it with five, and when the boss came back, there were ten. One guy got two, and the boss came back to four. You say, "He liked this guy better."

Verses 18-19

Well, I would serve the Lord, but I do not have any talent.

If you go and hide that one talent saying, "I am not much for God," God will come back and say what did you do with that?

This guy went and hid it in the earth.

Verses 20-28

Jesus called this servant a slothful servant.

Proverbs 6:6-7

"Well, you know, I serve the Lord because I have a Christian watching me." You ought to be serving when nobody is watching.

Verses 7-9: Some people waste time sleeping.

Here is the excuse:

Verses 10-11

When you travel, do you know how much money you spend traveling? If you traveled a month and you stayed in a motel for a month.

Verse 11

What is an armed man?

He has his pack and his sleeping bag. He has his rations. He needs resupplied. Your want comes like an armed man. You have to be careful about being a sluggard.

Proverbs 24:30-31

When you drive around here, you see houses run down with tattered, torn fences. It is a wreck.

Verses 30-34

He talks about a sluggard being that way—a slothful person being that way.

Ecclesiastes 9:10

You can be slothful when it comes to Bible reading. You could be slothful about church attendance. You could be a sluggard about witnessing. ***“Whist ye not that I should be about my Father’s business?”***

Are you lazy when it comes to your spiritual life?

Then, on the other hand, there are people who read the Bible pray, memorize Scripture, and yet, their work

ethic stinks to the world. We need that balance. We need to have a strong work ethic to the world and a spiritual ethic in front of our God!

“Not slothful in business, but fervent in the spirit, serving the Lord.”

Colossians 3:17

Everything you do ought to be all out. When you sing, you ought to sing loudly and give your very best! I believe in singing with all you have!

You do not need to be a slug when it comes to singing.

Verses 17, 23: “...do it heartily to the Lord...”

Everything you do is for God. ***“Rejoice in the Lord *always!*”*** Not when I feel like it. When you rejoice in the Lord, when you do not feel like it, that is a sacrifice well-pleasing to the Lord. When you pick up that hymn book, and you do not feel like singing, you give it all you got. God likes that!

Verse 23

2 Thessalonians 3:10

Hebrews 6:11-12

The opposite of slothful is diligence.

Lesson 58 Questions

1. As Christians, we are to love everything and everyone.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. Love ought to be without _____.
 - a. Hypocrisy
 - b. Honesty
 - c. Criticism
 - d. Happiness
3. To abhor means to:
 - a. Love
 - b. Hate
4. Proper love should never hate.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. Who was an example of someone in the Bible who esteemed others better than themselves?
 - a. Abraham
 - b. Lot
 - c. Orpah
 - d. None of the above
6. What is the Father's business?
 - a. Humbling people
 - b. Getting people saved
 - c. Condemning people
 - d. Serving people
7. As long as you are not slothful in spiritual things, you are doing what you are supposed to do, even if you get a little lazy in your secular work.
 - a. True
 - b. False

8. What is the opposite of slothfulness?
 - a. Sacrifice
 - b. Rejoicing
 - c. Love
 - d. Diligence
9. In Matthew 25, how many men were given talents?
10. Which statement is true?
 - a. You cannot love without giving, nor can you give without loving.
 - b. You can love without giving, and you can give without loving.
 - c. You cannot love without giving, but you can give without loving.
 - d. You can love without giving, but you cannot give without loving.

Romans Lesson #59

Romans 12:12-16

Commandments for Christians (Part 2)

These are the twenty commandments from Paul. These are quick commandments for the believer.

Verses 9-11: Those are quick-shot simple commands. There is no period after **verse 11**. It continues. He tells you to serve the Lord. Again, a simple thing. While you are serving the Lord. **Verse 12** says, ***“Rejoicing in hope...”***

That means you are to be happy while serving the Lord. You are not just to serve the Lord. “Wow, I cannot believe I got to do this.” “Oh my, we have to go to church.” “I cannot believe we have to do all this soul-winning.” “What about all this literature?”

“Rejoicing in Hope...” The hope is that we are not hoping we are going to heaven. You know you are going to heaven. The Bible says, ***“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul sure and steadfast.”*** The Bible says, ***“In hope of eternal life which God can not lie promised before the world began.”***

Think about this: is hope there a verb or a noun? It is a noun. In = a preposition.

“Rejoicing in Hope...” Hope is a noun it is not like I hope, I hope... Hope is an anchor of the soul, both sure and

steadfast in the faith.

What is the hope of the believer?

“Looking for that Blessed hope and our glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.”

I am looking for that blessed hope!

The Bible says, ***“Christ in you the hope of glory...”***

“Rejoicing in hope...” He is talking about the second coming. We can rejoice in a great hope. We have got a great future. Our future is dim and dreary, boring. I am expecting Jesus Christ to come back.

I am going with him. I am going to disappear.

“Rejoicing in hope; Patient in tribulation;”

Rejoicing in the hope of the future; then He brings you back to earth. Patient in tribulation. Rats! We have more of this life. ***“In the world ye shall have tribulations, be of good cheer, but I have overcome the world.”*** John 16:33.

“Patient in tribulation...”

Do not grow impatient, Christian. When you get impatient, you do some dumb things. You are to rejoice in hope and be patient about those things.

How can I patient in tribulation? How do I get that patience?

“Continuing instant in prayer...”

There is a difference between continuing in prayer and continuing instant in prayer.

2 Timothy 4:2: *“...be instant in season out of season...”* A preacher is to be ready to preach and to be ready for any situation for God’s grace and His glory.

You ought to be ready to preach off the cuff having something ready always.

“Continuing instant in prayer...” That is instant in season and out of season. Do you ever have times where you feel like praying? How many have times have you not felt like praying? Then you need to pray when you feel like it, and when you do not feel like it. When you do not feel like it, is probably when you need it the most.

Always ready.

Are you faithful in prayer? Do you have a prayer life where you pray regularly and consistently?

Keep short accounts with God.

“Continuing instant in prayer...”

Can you pray on the spot? That is continuing instant on the spot. It is keeping short accounts with God. Always ready to pray.

Nehemiah 2:1-2: Nehemiah is the king’s cup bearer. He is down there in Babylon in Shushan the palace. That means anything that the king is about to eat, Nehemiah has to taste it and see if the food has been poisoned or not. He is the king’s cup bearer, and he is supposed to be happy.

Verse 2: The only time you are supposed to look sick according to this king is if you were sick. He reigned over all the countries from India to Ethiopia: one-hundred and twenty providences.

He was not afraid of losing his job. He was afraid of losing his head!

Verse 3

Nehemiah says, "The cat is out of the bag. I might as well say what is on my heart." He is bummed out because he has taken his captive out of Israel. He is in a foreign land. Nehemiah wants to go back to Israel. He says, "Why shouldn't my countenance be sad?"

Verse 4

Here is an instant prayer. He threw up a prayer to God. ***"So I prayed to the God of heaven..."*** Verse 5: ***"And I said unto the King..."***

Did the king hear the Nehemiah pray? No!

I do not know what he prayed, but it was not more than one sentence.

Nehemiah did not confess one sin. Why? He was keeping short accounts with God. He was continuing instant in prayer. He is being instant in season and out of season.

What does that mean? You need to be right with God because you could only have ten more minutes until the net is drawn.

Verse 5

By the way, he gets his request. Not only does the king stamp the thing and seal it, but the king finances his whole trip and supplies everything along.

Romans 12:11: “*Serving the Lord...*” How? **Verse 12: “*Continuing instant in prayer...*”** other words do not let your prayer life slip. The Bible says, **“*Men ought always to pray and not to faint.*”**

1 Thessalonians 5:17: “*Pray without ceasing...*” He does not mean you are to be on your knees for fifteen hours a day. It means having regular habits of prayer. Praying while you are walking, talking to God in your heart in the garden, while you are buying food, while you are driving, while you are working, while you are reading the Bible, and while you are witnessing.

Romans 12:12-13: “*Distributing to the necessities of the saints...*” Does that mean everybody that comes along? No. It does not say distributing to the wants of the saints. **“*Distributing...*”** That means you got to be willing to shell out. It means getting rid of money to help somebody out. Distributing to the necessities of the saints. Listen, we are not give to everybody who comes here wanting a handout.

You remember that prodigal son who went into a far country and joined himself with the citizen of that country? He filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat. The Bible says, **“No man gave unto him...”**

Someone said that is the greatest short story in the world. You better get the lesson: that if he would have had more money in his pocket, he would not have come back. He would have been out there partying and gone to hell.

The Bible says, ***“No man gave unto him.”*** He said, ***“How many of my father’s servants have bread enough to spare and I have hunger. I will arise and go unto my Father, because I’ve sinned unto heaven, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.”***

He said, “I know what I will do. Dad, I blew it. I played the fool. I am wrong, and I need your forgiveness. I would just like a job.” He did not even want to live in the dad’s house. He was going back as a hired servant, and when he gets there, his father says, “Put a ring on his finger and the best robe and kill the fatted calf. My son was dead and is alive!”

You know why he came back? No man gave unto him. He came to the end of himself.

Distributing to the necessity of the saints that has to do with the needs.

Romans 15:25

A preacher’s job is just not to evangelize the lost, it is to minister to the saints. In **verse 25**, he is going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints. **Verse 26**: You know what happened? It is reciprocal. The Bible says, ***“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature at Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and the uttermost parts of***

the earth.”

It started in Jerusalem. Christ was crucified outside the city of Jerusalem, and after a while, some years later. Gentile nations Ahaia and Macedonia said, “Let’s help those poor saints back there.” They sent money back to the poor saints. We are talking about distributing to the necessity of the saints.

2 Thessalonians 3:10

People here are too proud to take a low-paying job. That is laziness. God will let you get in that spiral—that vortex going down of that pride. If you take the lower job, God will bless you with something better. He that is faithful in that which is little, is faithful in that which is much. You got to start out somewhere.

Galatians 6:10: *“As we have therefore...”* What? *“...opportunity...”* That is like our missionaries. If God speaks to your heart to give him a little more money, give it! If a preacher has the touch of God on his life.

Verse 10

You know who we are to take care of first? The preachers.

1 John 3:17: *“But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth...”* You do not see it in a letter, on on the radio, or T.V. We see the need.

Verse 17: We are talking about distributing to the necessity to the saints.

Let the world feed the world. Let the church feed the church.

Romans 12:12-13: *"Given to hospitality..."*

A hospital supplies everything for you. Hospitality is not just a meal. He says to be given to hospitality. Brother, an alcoholic is given to booze. They have to have a shot to go to sleep and shot to go to bed. You are to be given to hospitality.

1 Peter 4:9

You are to have a good attitude when you are helping somebody.

Romans 12:13-14: *"Bless them that persecute you: bless and curse not."*

Bless them when they curse you. When they tell you to go to hell, ask, "Why not go to heaven?"

Verse 14

That is returning good for evil.

Ephesians 4:32

We need to be tenderhearted not hard hearted toward the lost. The Bible says, "The Blood thirsty hate the upright, but the just seek his soul." **Proverbs 29:10.**

Colossians 3:13

1 Peter 3:9: Everybody you do not like your to ask God to bless them.

When somebody lies to you and curses you, and talks bad about you.

John 15:18-23

Romans 12:14-15

“Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep.” That is esteeming others better than yourself. The weeping has to do with being tender and compassionate. Happy at other people’s successes. Sad at other people’s calamities. You know, we hear about somebody that got in trouble, and we say, “He deserved it.”

Romans 12:16: Come down off your high horse. You better condescend; you better come down.

Verse 16

Do not be so proud and arrogant. Come down and rejoice with them that do rejoice. Be happy about another person’s success, their promotion, and their raise.

Verse 15

We have to remember those who are going through it. Here is why God lets you go through things.

2 Corinthians 1:3

The God of all comfort. You will never know that until you go through somethings.

Verse 4: ***“Who comforteth us all in all our tribulation...”*** Why? ***“...that we may be able to comfort them who are in any trouble.”***

That means if we are going to minister and be a blessing to people, if you are going to be in the ministry, the only way you are going to be able to minister is to go through trouble. You are going to have pain. I have learned more in Moldova in fourteen years about the ministry through pain, through trials, through hardships than through anything else. I thank God for all our troubles.

My daughter's brain tumors, the kid's fevers that were so high not even the doctors could bring them down. My wife's heart trouble. I started a church trained men. Sometimes, you spend and give your time to people—those same people who eventually say, "We do not need you anymore."

Learn to comfort people. God has to temper you.

Verse 5

That means your troubles are increasing on a rapid scale. As your trials, troubles and miseries abound, the comfort of Christ goes right with them. He says, "***My grace is sufficient for me.***"

Verse 6: "*Whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation...*" What you are going through is God-sent so you can be a better minister, so someone else can understand. **Verses 6-8.**

God will even take you at the edge of death.

Romans 12:15-16: "*We are to be of the same mind one to another...*" **Philippians 2:2**

Romans 12:16

Do you know why John knew Jesus was the Messiah? Because they heard the poor had the gospel preached to them.

“Condescend to men of low estate...”

“Be not wise in your own conceits.”

Do not be proud of your intelligence. In order for God to use you, you have to forget what you know.

Proverbs 26:12: If someone is conceited, they are proud. They are arrogant.

Proverbs 3:7

Lesson 59 Questions

1. How many commandments did Paul give in this passage?
2. How should we serve the Lord?
 - a. Disinterestedly
 - b. Happily
 - c. Angrily
 - d. Out of duty
3. Be always ready to:
 - a. Pray
 - b. Preach
 - c. Both a and b
 - d. Neither a nor b
4. What kind of prayer did Nehemiah offer?
 - a. Patient
 - b. Long
 - c. Ceremonious
 - d. Instant
5. Do we know what Nehemiah prayed?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
6. What has been claimed as the greatest short story in the world?
 - a. Parable of the Sower
 - b. Parable of the Talents
 - c. Parable of the Prodigal Son
 - d. Story of the Rich Man and Lazarus
7. People being too proud to take a low-paying job are displaying what?
 - a. Respect

- b. Honor
 - c. Greed
 - d. Laziness
8. The church ought to first feed whom?
- a. The poor
 - b. The orphans
 - c. The world
 - d. The church
9. How should we be toward the lost?
- a. Tenderhearted
 - b. Hard-hearted
 - c. Pitiful
 - d. Judgmental
10. God lets you go through trials and troubles so that:
- a. You can develop a conscience
 - b. You can criticize others
 - c. You can comfort others
 - d. You can gain favor in God's eyes

Romans Lesson #60

Romans 12:17-19

Lesson #1: Replacement

Verse 17: “Recompense” means to pay back. On a national level, payback is expected; but on a personal level, or on the vengeance level, it is not scriptural.

Verse 17: “Recompense to no man...” I do not care who you want to put in the blank. Maybe it is enemy number one, or maybe the person who disgusts me the most. Maybe a person I have a vendetta against. ***“Recompense to no man evil for evil...”***

You are not pay back anybody evil for evil. That is how animals act. You smack a dog, and it will growl at you. If one dog bites one dog, the other dog bites that dog back.

“Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.”

That means you are to live an honest, clean life. You are to be a decent, good citizen. That verse means you are to live out in the open what you do in the private.

Many people have two lifestyles. They live one way in the private, and they live another way in public. If people are watching them, they will be honest outwardly.

Verse 17

You are to live honestly. Go back two books to the right.

2 Corinthians 8:21

So, there are couple of people watching you. You are watching yourself, and God is watching you.

Have you ever been talking to someone, and they say: “Well, God knows my heart!”

Yeah! But we do not! You are to abstain from all appearances of evil. You have a testimony. If you are not honest about where you go...

2 Corinthians 4:2: “*But renounced the hidden things of dishonesty...*” That means you have to turn your back on it. “Lord, I am not going to live like that anymore. In the past I have gotten away from that, but I am not going to live like that anymore.” ***“But renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully...”***

How does someone handle the Word of God deceitfully?

Finding a verse to justify what they want to do. There are over 31,000 verses in here. If you look, you can twist something to make an alibi. Twist and do something you want to do. Here is the thing you want to do: you know it is wrong. So, you read the Bible not to better yourself, but you will find a verse to back to you up.

Verse 2: “*But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the*

sight of God.”

You are not to be walking around, sneaking around the Pastor, and trying to deceive the leaders of the church. Quit hiding from people.

1 Thessalonians 4:11-12: “*And that you study to be quiet...*”

1. Be quiet
2. Mind your own business
3. Keep busy

Why do you do those things?

Verse 12

The Christian does not need a handout from the government. Be honest, work hard, keep your mouth shut, and mind your own business.

It is important you walk honestly. Live honestly.

1 Peter 3:9: The Bible says, “*Recompense no man evil for evil...*” You are to be honest. Sometimes, people use dishonesty as a means to get back at somebody.

Verse 9: “*Railing for railing...*” When somebody cusses you, you are not to cuss him back. “*A soft answer turneth away wrath...*” In the world, the dogs eat the other dogs. They step over whoever to get to the top. That does not work here.

Romans 12:17

You are not to take vengeance into your own hands.

There are constituted authorities.

Romans 12:18

What if that verse started out saying, ***“Live peaceably with all men”***? Instead, it put little things in front of it. Remember it said, ***“...not handling the word of God deceitfully.”***

This a classic example of finding a verse that you cannot get right. You cannot get along with a person.

“If it be possible...” “Well, it is not possible in this situation.”

Verse 18: Looks like there are two loopholes in there. But the thing is, you have to look at the verse of scripture that tells us how it is possible.

Matthew 19:26

“With men this is impossible but not with God, but with God all things are possible.”

Philippians 4:13

John 15:5: *“Without me you can do nothing...”*

James 1:5: *“If any man lack wisdom let him ask of God...”*

There are no loopholes there.

Do not handle the Word of God deceitfully, and say, “That is my verse.”

Remember, ***“As much as lieth in you live peaceably with all men...”*** The question is: What lies in you?

Ephesians 3:20-21: “...the power that worketh in us.”

The power that worketh in us is the Holy Ghost power. It is the resurrection power. It is what brought Christ up from the dead.

Verse 20: Well, I think it is impossible. God is able to do above that. He is able to do what you ask. Lord, I ask for wisdom. He is able to help you cope. We are going to cope and share. I never do that.

Verse 20: “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you live peaceably with all men.”

Colossians 3:12: “You are to put...” Did you put on your clothes today? Your socks and your shoes? You are to put on some spiritual things. **Verse 12.** You are to put on a different attitude that you walked in with.

Verse 13: “Forbearing...” That is to hold back without retaliation. It means to put up with one another. **“Forebearing one another, forgiving one another...”** You need to forgive that person for your sake. You forgave them for your sake, but when they come to you, you need to forgive them for their sake.

Colossians 3:13: “...if any man have a quarrel against any...” Nobody is exempt from this verse. Nobody in this world has wronged me like I have wronged Jesus Christ.

Verse 13

Romans 12:18-19: *“Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves...”* He is addressing them by terms of endearment. *“...avenge not yourselves but rather give place unto wrath.”*

That means step back. You are to give place unto wrath. **Proverbs 15:1:** *“A soft answer turneth away wrath but grievous words stirreth up anger.”*

Verse 19

It is easy to give somebody a tongue-lashing. **Verse 19:** The wrath is just not the person towards you. It is also the wrath of God coming on the person who wrongs you.

When you take vengeance into your own hands, you are stealing from God. *“I will repay...”* God pays you back for your wickedness.

Psalm 94: If vengeance is God’s, then by faith, do not play God. If you defend yourself, then the Lord will not defend you.

Psalm 94:1-2; Proverbs 20; James 1:20: *“For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.”*

Proverbs 20:22

Not only are you not to take matters into your own hands, but you are not to even say it. I know saying it makes you feel better. God says, it is not even supposed to come out of your mouth.

The only way you can do it is by patience and waiting on God by faith. *“...vengeance is mine I will repay, saith the*

Lord.”

Proverbs 24:29: “Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work.”

Proverbs 24:17

Here is the problem: somebody wrongs you, and you say, “God, I will not take matters into my own hands. I am going to trust you to take care of it.” So, a week later, a month later, Boom! God takes care of it. He takes care of your problem—the thorn in your side that irritates you. God says, ***“Rejoice not when your enemy falleth...”***

That is tough, because you already said, and prayed, “I am going to trust God, and I am going to leave it in God’s hands.”

You are not to be happy about it.

Verses 17-18

When you are happy in your heart when God finally gave that guy what he had coming, and go, “Yay!” that is wrong. You are not to be happy when that happens.

Verses 19-20

Somebody wrongs you, you are to treat them nice, if they frown at you, you smile at them,

Psalm 140:8: “Grant not, O Lord, the desires of the wicked...”

Verse 9: Remember, “If your enemy hunger, feed

him; if he thirst, give him drink; and thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.” Verses 9-10

David said, “God, do not answer their prayers. They are trying to get me, but I am trying to worship you. You do your will. These people are trying to hinder me.” So, he prays something similar to what the Apostle Paul says.

Proverbs 25:21-22

For some reason, he left that out in the New Testament: that you get rewarded for treating those good who did you wrong. The Lord is going to bless you.

Keep your place in proverbs. **Romans 12:20:** this next verse will help you get victory over sin.

Verse 21

Proverbs 25:28

If you do not have any rule over your own spirit and somebody lashes out at you, “Well, I could not help it.” That means you do not have rule over your own spirit. You are like a city broken down and without walls. In the old days, walls around the city gave it protection. Walls kept the enemy out.

Verse 28

You need to put something positive in the place of the negative.

Proverbs 16:32

You say, “Here is a great conqueror who jeopardized

his life.” Brother, he took that city. He won, and he was victorious. He is talking about controlling yourself with God’s help.

“A soft answer turneth away wrath...”

Ecclesiastes 10:4

Suppose the preacher gets upset with you. Do you know what the tendency is? To jump ship. People will most often take off.

Verse 4

There might be times I appear to you as evil. ***“Be not overcome with evil but overcome evil with good.” “Leave not thy place!”*** Yielding pacified great offences.

1 Samuel 24:8-9: ***“And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou mens words...”*** He says, “Do not believe everything you here. **Verse 9.**

Do you know everything you hear against you is it true?

Verses 10-11

If Saul had the chance, he would have killed David. King Saul was envious of David and tried to Kill David. David has the chance to get rid of his enemy, and he did not do it.

Verses 12-14

David is referring to himself as a dead dog or a flea.

Verses 15-17

“Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil for good.”

Verses 18-19

1 Samuel 26:21

Saul is trying to kill David again even after David is good to him. He goes and tries to kill him later, then he goes into the camp, and David could have killed Saul in his sleep. David does not, though, just to prove to Saul that David has no evil intentions of Saul.

2 Kings 6:22

They had captured the enemies. And they said should we kill them? Look at the answer: ***“Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.”***

That is pretty strange. Brother, they captured them, and they asked, “Should we put them in prison, torture them?” He said, “Feed them, treat them well, give them a bath, and turn them loose.”

Verse 23

“If thy enemy hunger, feed him, if he thirst give him to drink, for in so doing ye shall heap coals of fire on his head.”

Well, how did the battle go? We lost several men. Well, how did it go? Hey, you are not going to believe this. We were taken captive. They fed us with bread and water. They gave us a bath, and they turned us loose.

What did it do? It heaped coals of fire on their heads.

Psalm 35:11: *"If somebody falsely accused you..."*

How would you feel if somebody laid something falsely to your charge?

Verses 12-13

He said, "When they were sick, I tried to help them. They rewarded me evil for good. They falsely accused me." You are to pray for them that persecute you.

Psalm 50:15

Luke 9:51-52

He could not make it to Jerusalem, so he has to lodge overnight. So, he stays in Samaria.

Verse 53: Those Samaritans did not receive Him because *"his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem."*

They did not like His face. "He is snobbish; he would not even shake my hand."

Verse 54: Peter, James, and John say, "Kill them. Evil for evil."

Verses 55-56

Romans 12:21

Here we have a choice between two things. God tells us to choose the better one. It is an either/or situation.

You cannot let evil alone, and evil will not let you alone.

You must fight the battle. There is no neutrality. It is either conquer or be conquered. Be not overcome with evil or do not. Brethren, if you do nothing, you will be overcome. ***“Be not overcome with evil but overcome evil with good.”***

There is no avoiding the conflict. Good is our only weapon. When we fight evil with evil. You are already overcome.

What is he teaching? Replacement.

Let me give you an example: suppose you are overcome with money. You are eaten up with it, and you have to have money. Do you know how you can get victory over that? Be not overcome with covetousness but overcome covetousness with giving.

If money is tearing you up: ***“Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil for good.”***

If you are consumed with making money, you will cheat; you will lie; you will steal. You will think of the things to do wrong to get it.

Verse 21

I am talking courtesy for rudeness.

Daniel 4:27: Break off thy sins with righteousness.

Isaiah 1:16-17

Romans 12:2, 9: “Abhor that which is evil and cleave to that which is good.”

Psalm 119:11

“Be not overcome with evil but overcome evil with good.”

John 3:30

He must increase. Christ needs to have more sway, more place in my heart. He must increase, while I must decrease.

Romans 8:13

The only way to overcome the evil, is through the spirit.

You fight the flesh in the power of the flesh. You have to fight the flesh in the power of the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 4:12

Somebody reviles you and chews you out, then you bless. **“Being persecuted, we suffer for it.”** There cannot just be subtraction in the Christian life; there needs to be addition, too.

Ephesians 4:22: “That ye put off...” That is negative:
Verses 22-24.

Verse 22: “Put off...” Verse 24: “Put on...”

Not only are you to put off somethings in your life, but you are to put on some things.

Verse 25: You are not only to put away lying, but you are to tell the truth.

Verses 26-28

What was he doing in the beginning of **verse 28**? He was stealing.

Verse 29. Look at **Colossians 3:1, 8-10, 12, 14**

It says put off, put off, put off, put on, put on, put on...

Luke 6:27-28

Lesson 60 Questions

1. What does “recompense” mean?
2. Who is watching you?
 - a. God is
 - b. You are
 - c. Others are
 - d. All of the above
3. How can someone handle the Word of God deceitfully?
 - a. Lie about it
 - b. Justify what they do
 - c. Stop witnessing
 - d. None of the above
4. Christians need to seek money from the government.
 - a. True
 - b. False
5. In Ephesians, “The power that worketh in us” refers to whose power?
 - a. The Holy Ghost’s
 - b. Our own
 - c. The devil’s
 - d. The world’s
6. You can be happy when God finally fulfills vengeance on someone who deserves it.
 - a. True
 - b. False
7. David had evil intentions toward Saul and tried to kill him.
 - a. True
 - b. False
8. What is our only weapon?
 - a. God’s vengeance

- b. The enemy's ignorance
 - c. Good
 - d. Honesty
9. We can overcome covetousness with _____.
 - a. Money
 - b. Receiving what we desire
 - c. Giving to others
 - d. Not thinking about our desire
10. The Samaritans did not like Jesus' _____.
 - a. Face
 - b. Hair
 - c. Feet
 - d. Hands