

Overcoming Evil With Good (Romans 12:14-21)

Pastor Deric

(14) Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

(15) Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

(16) Live in harmony with one another.

Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

(17) Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

(18) If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

(19) Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." (20) To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

(21) Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Practical Application

1. God has loved, blessed, and been so good to you through Jesus Christ, even when you were against Him.
2. Because of His blessing in your life, you can bless others, even those who are against you.
3. Because of the joy God has given you, you can rejoice with those who rejoice.
4. Because of the emotional strength God has given you, you can weep with those who weep.
5. Because you have been eternally united with God through Christ, you can seek to live in unity with others.
6. You can live humbly before others because of Jesus' humble incarnation, life, and death.
7. Because you know that God is perfectly wise and that all the wisdom you have has been given to you by God, you realize that no matter how much wisdom God has given you in the past, you still have so much more to learn.
8. Because God did not give you evil when you did evil, you can thoughtfully honor Christ and people by doing good to all.
9. Christian, Jesus has freed you to live honorably before people.
10. Because you have peace with God, you can be a peaceful peacemaker in all your relationships.
11. If other people are unwilling to live at peace with you, you have the freedom in Christ to still have peace within.
12. You are God's beloved child. Because you know how much He loves you, you can trust Him to avenge you if needed. You know His perfect justice will prevail, so you can show mercy as He is patiently merciful.
13. Because God has shown you great mercy, you can show great mercy to others.
14. Because Jesus took God's wrath toward your sin on the cross, you don't have to pour out wrath on others personally. For those who do not trust in Christ, apologize, ask you for forgiveness, and repent, God's eternal wrath will be sufficient to pay them back for their wrong. God will also often use earthly authorities to render some of that wrath now.

15. Because God, in His goodness, graciously feeds you, you can do good and feed your enemies.
16. Because God, in His goodness, graciously satisfies your thirst, you can give your enemy something to drink.
17. Your greatest desire should be to glorify God, display His character, lead others to Christ, and help those who know Christ mature and grow to become more like Him. Your greatest desire should be to love God and people by the power of Jesus' love and for the honor of His great name.
18. Because Jesus Christ defeated evil through His perfect life, death, and resurrection, you don't have to be controlled or dominated by evil in any way.
19. Because God has overcome evil with good, you can too.
20. In Christ, you are an overcomer. Overcome evil with good.

Announcements

- Every Wednesday we have Children's programming (Awana) and Adult Bible Study (6:30-7:30). Dinner starts at 6.
- Mother Daughter Tea: Sunday, April 28th after worship.
- Mom and Son Nerf War. K-5th. Friday, May 3 at 6pm. Hotdog supper afterward.
- Baby and Child Dedication: Sunday, May 12. Please let Pastor Deric or our Children's Director, Tiffany Vick know if you would like to participate.
- Kid's summer Soccer Camp will be June 10-12 (6-8pm).
- Kid's summer Art Camp will be July 15-18 (5:30-8pm).
- All of our Small Groups meet weekly. See our small group guide to find one that is best for you.
- Our next Man Church is on May 18th from 5-7.
- Our Youth Group meets each Wednesday night from 6-7:30. See David Barrero for more info.