UNITY IN THE CHURCH
1 PETER 3:8-12 / 9-25-19 / WED

I. WHAT ARE OUR DUTIES TO OTHER CHRISTIANS?

A. Peter uses five imperative statements or commands in verse 8 listing a Christian’s duty to other Christians.

1. First be “like-minded” or united.
   b. The Jerusalem church is a good example of unity—Acts 4:32.

2. Second, be “sympathetic”—Romans 12:15.

3. Third, “love one another”.
   a. Jesus commands this—John 13:35.
   b. Love is evidence that we know the Lord—1 John 4:20.


B. Peter uses one more imperative in verse 9 to list how Christians should treat non-Christians, although, this same command is appropriate in relating to other Christians too.

1. First Peter says we are to return good for evil—3:9b.

   1 Peter 3:9
   Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing...

   Jesus says the same thing in Matthew 5:38-44.

2. Peter lists the motive for returning good for evil in 3:9b.

   1 Peter 3:9
   ...because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
II. AN ILLUSTRATION FROM ONE OF DAVID’S PSALMS.

A. King David echoes these same Christian duties in Psalms 34: 12-16 which Peter quotes in 3:10-11.

B. King David also says such good behavior is evidence of one’s salvation which Peter quotes in 3:12.