



**Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY**

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# *Roamin' In* **Romans** **Romans Chapter 12**

**Romans 12:17,18 - Live Peaceably and Treat Others Good**

*Message preached on Wednesday, July 30th and August 6th, 2025*

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

**18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.**

**BELOVED:** The frustrating thing about Romans 12 is that it is really getting in our business. Laying down our flesh and renewing our mind isn't just about me being LOADED...it is about me being more like Jesus...more like the Father. Which means how I treat other people...them being good or bad...matters!

That is why people don't like it when pastors preach on relationships...because we KINDA like NOT LIKING certain people...we actually KINDA like being mean to certain people...

**BELOVED:** We shouldn't be. Our goal should be getting along with and living in peace with others.

**QUESTION:** Well, how in the world can I do that?

**ANSWER:** Lay down your flesh and renew your mind! J

These two verses give us three (more) things that we need to set our focus on when dealing with others (good or mean).

## **1.) Recompense to NO MAN evil for evil.**

**"Recompense"**– to pay back, to give back; to retaliate or get even with

SO...someone has done something harmful, hurtful or evil to you.

SO...you find a way to get even with them. Talk bad about them, etc.

**NOTE:** We will talk more about this point when we get to verse 19...but we **MUST** understand that our goal needs to be when others do bad to us...**we CAN'T repay it with evil.**

James 3:10-11

10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

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 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

**BELOVED:** If you are a child of God...there is no evil in you. So, how in the world can it come out of you?

**REMEMBER:** The early Christians had a lot of people doing evil to them. Paul had people doing evil to him. But the key is not to get even.

## 2.) Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

(oh, yeah! I was planning on doing that!)

**“Provide”** – to think of beforehand, to plan or make plans

**“Things honest”** – beautiful to look at; good; excellent

**(AMP)** – “but take thought for what is honest and proper and noble [aiming to be above reproach] in the sight of everyone.”

**(NLT)** – “Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable.”

**(PASSION)** – “Plan your life around the noblest way to benefit others.”

I love the fact that this presents the ideas that we should be PLANNING how to do beautiful and kind things to others. Even those who have done us harm.

We are suppose to be different than the world.

**LOOK at JOSEPH:** He had an opportunity to GET EVEN with his brothers...but allowing God to move in his life was more important.

**LOOK at DAVID:** His brother talked down to him on the battle field...but he didn't get even...he had a giant to kill.

***David was busy living in victory; Saul was busy trying to kill David.***

## 3.) Live in peace with all men.

This is a loaded verse (18).

**“If it be possible”** – feasible

**NOTE:** This brings up the point...it may not be possible; **but as far as it is with ME**, I will live in peace. The other person may be a JERK or the highest degree...but as for me, I will live in peace.

**NOTICE:** vs. 17 – When others look at me, there will be a difference.

**MARK HANKINS:** (the Lord told him) “You can't control everyone, but I would appreciate it if you would control yourself.”

If it be possible...as much as it you have to do anything about it...control yourself.

***“Live peaceably with all men”***

Yup, this is one of those “IN YOUR BUSINESS” things.

**NOTICE:** This doesn't say that we must allow them in our lives and trust them with all things.

***It says that we are to live peaceably with them.***

We are NOT to be at war with people.

Hebrews 12:14 – “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, ***without which no man shall see the Lord.***”

**“Follow”** – to hunt after, pursue (habitual, lifestyle).

Hunting is NOT accidental...***it is deliberate!***

Living peaceably must be the focus of our life.

I am reminded of Psalm 23:6 – “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.”

**NOTICE:** Goodness and mercy are hunting us down...and there is an intersecting point where they find us...when we hunt for peace with others.

If we are not hunting after peace...we will miss goodness and mercy.

Psalm 23:2 – “He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.”

**NOTE:** Green pastures presents to us two things: plenty of provision and being fed by the Word. Both are essential.

**UNDERSTAND:** Sheep will NOT enjoy either provision or being fed if they are NOT in peace.

***“You can lead a sheep to green pastures, but you can’t make them eat.”***

**THEREFORE:** The enemy will stir up fear, or pests will rise up, etc.

**ONE OF THE GREATESTS** reasons for lack of peace in the green pasture is friction with other sheep.

~ Chicken have a pecking order; Cattle have a horning order and Sheep have a butting order. Usually an arrogant, cunning and domineering old ewe is the boss. She maintains her position by butting and driving ewe’s away from the best grazing areas.

~ Because of this the sheep cannot lie down and rest in contentment, they are always focused on defending their rights.

**THE CURE?** When the shepherd was close...when their attention was on him...they forgot about the rivalries and stopped fighting.

**NOTE:** Shepherds would aggressively correct a belligerent ewe for abusing a weaker one. Because it was keeping them from feeding and prospering.

**ANOTHER CURE?** Psalm 23:5 – “...thou anointest my head with oil...”

**REASON 1** for anointing is keeping pests from laying eggs in ears and noses, etc.

**REASON 2** for anointing is treating wounds (balm of gilead).

**REASON 3** by applying grease (oil) to the heads of the sheep, when they tried to butt each other...it would slide off and not hurt as bad.

**BELOVED:** The Holy Spirit working in us helps us to mature...to know the Word. To let things slide off of us.

**UNDERSTAND:** The enemy does NOT want you to prosper...He does NOT want you to receive the Word of God in your life...so his MAIN weapon is to remove you from peace. Obviously by trials and temptations...but mostly by bringing others against you.

**OUR JOB?** As much as it lies with us...stay in the presence of the Shepherd (vs 19)...stay anointed with oil.

Romans 14:19 – “Let us therefore **follow after** the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.”

Colossians 3:15 – “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”

**“Rule”**– be the umpire

If you have a choice at peace or chaos...choose peace.

**ILLUSTRATION:** Jessica used to play basketball...a long time ago...she had a problem; she liked to foul. Apparently, she fouled A LOT...a lot a lot! So, she spent a lot of time on the bench...because the referee kept saying, “You can’t do that!” Well, instead of changing her actions and stop fouling...she played volleyball!

Well, when others are mean, rude or just indifferent to us...what actions to we take?

- \* Hack ‘em? Whistle...foul.
- \* Yell at them? Whistle...foul.
- \* Talk about them? Whistle...foul.
- \* Hunt after peace? Yup! You can stay in the game.

I began looking for ways to go after peace...and I was stopped and I looked at Romans 12. It is a chapter of pursuing peace with others...

- \* Build love (genuine love)

1 Corinthians 14:1 – “Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.”

**NOTE:** When you are not hunting after love and peace...it will mess with the gifts that God has given to you.

- \* Learn to hate evil and love good...get in the Word.
- \* Focus on honoring others.
- \* Everything you do and how you treat others...do it like you are doing it to the Lord.
- \* Practice generosity in life...all the time.
- \* Talk good about others (even those who persecute you); do not curse them.
- \* Rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with those that weep...NOT VISA VERSA.
- \* Do NOT rejoice with those who weep; or weep with those who rejoice.
- \* Quit thinking about yourself only (your own conceit); think of others.
- \* Never allow retaliation in life.

**“Holiness”** – separate; different

We should be different than the world. You cannot lay down your flesh and not live peaceably...you cannot renew your mind and want to get even.