

Session #48: “LEAVE IT TO THE LORD”— Romans 12:14-21

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email - philtwente@att.net For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column under “Site Map”

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Romans by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and William Newell.

Questions:

- Regarding Christian love, do you really want to apply what you believe?
- Re verse 14, how natural or un-natural is the command to bless, to bless and not curse those who persecute us? What is the only thing that can keep us together when we are attacked?
- How do you respond to persecution? Can you see any relationship to great missions’ movements from those who lead these movements to having been previously persecuted by the same people?
- Can you see how important your witness is regarding your response to persecution?
- How compassionate are you regarding the experiences of others? Who do you rejoice with? Who do you weep with? Are you a “professional crier”, or are your tears really heartfelt?
- When you see someone really grieving, how often do you tell them “just get over it, man. God gives those things in our lives....”
- How considerate are you of the opinions of others? (v. 16) Are you accepting of people?
- How frequently are you setting your mind on high things? Are you a Diotrophes?
- Can it be said of you, that you always make every attempt to live peaceably with all men?
- How revengeful are you? Do you always tend to seek revenge or do you tend to respond with good?

THE **PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS** OF GOD - Romans 1:18-8:39

THE **PROBLEMS OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS** OF GOD - Romans 9:1-11:36

• **THE PRACTICES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 12:1-15:33**

1A. AS TO LIVING FOR THE LORD - ROMANS 12:1-8

• **2A. AS TO THE LOVE OF THE LORD - ROMANS 12:9-21**

1B. The CHARACTERISTICS of love - 12:9-13

1C. Love is **Controlled by God’s standards** – 9 - Key verse: v. 9 - **“the love (is) without hypocrisy”**

2C. Love is **Careful about the feelings of others** - 10

3C. Love is **Committed to the service of the Lord** - 11

4C. Love is **Confident in God’s power and plan** - 12

5C. Love is **Concerned about the needs of others** - 13

❖ **2B. The COMMANDS of love (un-hypocritical love) - Romans 12:14-21**

Rom 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless (speak well of!) **and do not curse.**

✓ 1C. **Love is Complimentary toward those who persecute you** – 14 - **“bless”** - cf. **Matt. 5:10-12;**

James 3:8-12; 1 Peter 2:18-20; 3:14-17; 4:12-16 - Two important questions to ask:

1D. **WHY are you being persecuted?** - **Matt. 5: 10** - **“for righteousness’ sake”** also in **1 Peter 3:14; Matt. 5:11** - **“for My sake”** - **1 Peter 3:17** - **“for doing good..”**

2D. **HOW should you respond to the persecution?** - **Matt. 5:12** - **“Rejoice”** - **1 Pet. 4:13; 1**

Peter 2:20 - **“take it patiently”**; **1 Peter 3:14** - **“be not afraid... neither be troubled”**; **1 Peter**

4:16 - **“let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God in this manner”** **1 Peter 3:15** -

“sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope...”

Rom 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

- ✓ 2C. Love is Compassionate toward the experiences of others - 15

1D. Rejoice with them – cf. Luke 1:57-58; 15:5-7, 9, 23-24 – do you rejoice when an unloved one is rejoicing over their good fortune?

2D. React with sorrow - John 11:33-36; 1 Cor. 12:25-26

Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

- ✓ 3C. Love is Considerate of the opinions of others - 16

1D. In terms of acceptance - “be of the same mind one toward another” - cf. Rom. 15:5-7; 2 Cor. 13:11.; Phil. 2:2; 4:2

2D. In terms of ambition - “do not set your on high things” (Greek: Stop doing it!) - cf. Mark 10:43-45; 3 John 9

3D. In terms of association- “but associate with the humble” - cf. Matt. 18:1-4; James 2:1, 10

4D. In terms of attitude - “Do not be wise in your own opinion” - cf. Rom. 11:25 quote from Proverbs 3:7

- ✓ 4C. Love is CONSTRAINED in its reactions to evil - 17-21 – Consider four things!

Rom 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

1D. It repays no one with evil – 17 - cf. Matt. 5:38-42; 1 Pet. 2:22-23; 3:8-12

Rom 12:18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

2D. It reflects a desire for peace -18 - cf. Matt. 5:9; Rom. 14:16-19; Eph. 4:3; Col. 3:15; Heb. 12:14

Rom 12:19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord.

3D. It refuses to seek revenge – 19 - (quote - Deut. 32:35) - cf. Lev. 19:18; Prov. 20:22; Heb. 10:30-31 (quote of Deut. 32:35)

Rom 12:20 Therefore “IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM; IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP COALS OF FIRE ON HIS HEAD.”

Rom 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

4D. It responds with good - 20-21 - cf. Prov. 25:21-22; Gal. 6:10

Ecc. 7:29; John 13:17; 1 John 5:3

“THE LOVE OF GOD”

The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, And reaches to the lowest hell; The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win; His erring child He reconciled, And pardoned from his sin.

Refrain: Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure—The saints’ and angels’ song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made, Were every stalk on earth a quill, And every man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above Would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Though stretched from sky to sky.