

Paul's Letter to the
Romans
Ch. 12:9



THIS WEEK WE RESOLVE TO:

1. Love without Hypocrisy.
2. Abhor what is Evil.
3. Cling to what is Good.



ROMANS 12:9-21

9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.

10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;

11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,

13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

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

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."

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



1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-8

“If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.”



DIFFERENT “LOVE”_s IN THE GREEK



1. Érōs [ἔρως] : “Love” of passion/sexual.
2. Phileo [φιλέω]: Love of close association (brother, sister)
3. Agape [ἀγάπη (n), ἀγαπάω (v)]
 - ✓ Quest oriented.
 - ✓ A love that seeks the highest good of the one loved.
 - ✓ Not selfish but self-less!

ROMANS 12:9



9 Let love be without hypocrisy....

LOVE WITHOUT HYPOCRISY



“It is a hard thing to do, for instinct warns us to protect ourselves and to keep the wounds away from our hearts. How easy it is to form a shell about one’s emotions and to withhold all that love might give, for fear of being hurt! Only when we recognize that the love of Christ will cast out all fear and being hurt, can we love as He wants us to love” Donald Gray Barnhouse

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WHAT IS “EVIL”?



“Any act or event that is contrary to the good and holy purposes of God.”*

- It “Wages war against your soul” (1 Peter 2:11)
- Comes in different “forms” (1 Thess. 5:22)
- FLEE from it!!! (1 Cor. 6:18; 10:14; 2 Tim. 2:22)

*Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms, Grenz, Guretzki & Nordling

PSALM 101:3



“I will set no worthless thing before my eyes;
I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not fasten
its grip on me.”

“I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes. I will neither delight in it, aim at it or endure it. If I have wickedness brought before me by others I will turn away from it, I will not gaze upon it with pleasure. The psalmist is very sweeping in his resolve, he declines the least, the most reputable, the most customary form of evil -- no wicked thing; not only shall it not dwell in his heart, but not even before his eyes, for what fascinates the eye is very apt to gain admission into the heart, even as Eve's apple first pleased her sight and then prevailed over her mind and hand.” Spurgeon

ABHOR WHAT IS EVIL



“The constant bombardment of our senses through TV, newspapers, magazines, movies, and books with immorality, violence, and perversion make it difficult to be shocked by anything. Tragically, many Christians regularly entertain ("embalm") themselves with sheer ungodliness, perhaps rationalizing that, simply by being a Christian, they are somehow immune to the corrupting, degrading effects of sin.”

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Cling to what is good



Cling: To bind yourself, glue yourself. It is used in scripture to describe the marriage relationship. We are to “cleave” to what is good. Attach ourselves to it and not let go.

WHEN EVIL ASSAILS US

WHAT DO WE DO?



1 Tim. 6:11-12 “But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith, take hold of the eternal life to which you were called”

Col. 3:2-3 says “Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Phil 4:8 “Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.”

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