

Paul's Letter to the
Romans

Ch. 12:19-21



GOD'S WRATH AND VENGEANCE ARE EXTENSIONS OF HIS JUSTICE.



- ❖ His wrath and His vengeance can never be too harsh or excessive because they are based on, and a perfect response to, our sinfulness.
- ❖ In other words, we ONLY get what we deserve—no more/no less.

HOW ARE WE TO DEAL WITH
THOSE WHO HATE US AND
MISTREAT US?



1. Don't take your own revenge on them. v. 19
2. Be kind to them. v. 20
3. Overcome evil with good. v. 21

ROMANS 12:19-21



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.

ROMANS 12:19



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.

- ✓ Revenge means “To procure justice. For someone” (yourself)
- ✓ Don’t take justice into your own hands.
- ✓ Hebrew word means “retribution”

VENGEANCE IS GOD'S TO ADMINISTER



Psalm 94:1 "O LORD, God of vengeance, God of vengeance, shine forth!"

Heb 10:30 "For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY."

Jer. 5:9 "Shall I not punish these people," declares the LORD, "And on a nation such as this Shall I not avenge Myself?"

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1. Don't take your own revenge on them. v. 19
❖ That is God's to dispense, not yours.

GENESIS 50:15-21



15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong which we did to him!"

16 So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father charged before he died, saying,

17 'Thus you shall say to Joseph, "Please forgive, I beg you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, for they did you wrong.'" ' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

18 Then his brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants."

19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, **for am I in God's place?**

20 "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.

21 "So therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

LEVITICUS 19:18



“You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.”

GENESIS 50:15-21



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“There may be occasions when God’s wrath is carried into effect by human agency (Rom. 13:4), but even then, it is by divine appointment (Rom. 13:1). No individual should assume that he can carry out the divine sentence by the exercise of his own vengeful feelings”

~J.A. Thompson. Deuteronomy (Tyndale OT Commentary)

TURN TO
1 SAMUEL 25:10-39



ROMANS 12:20



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.”

- ✓ Could refer to an Egyptian custom in which a person who wanted to show public contrition carried a pan of burning coals on their head. The coals were the shame and guilt of what they had done.
- ✓ Could also refer to the judgment of God falling upon them for their actions.

SIMPLY PUT



If you're kind to someone who is mean to you
it always has an effect.

1. It will affect the person who is being mean to you.
2. It will affect the people seeing you are be being mistreated.
3. And it will, in fact, impact God's response to that person in eternity.

TURN TO

1 SAMUEL 24:8-19



“.....16 When David had finished speaking these words to Saul, Saul said, “Is this your voice, my son David?” Then Saul lifted up his voice and wept. 17 He said to David, “You are more righteous than I; for you have dealt well with me, while I have dealt wickedly with you. 18 “You have declared today that you have done good to me, that the LORD delivered me into your hand and yet you did not kill me. 19 “For if a man finds his enemy, will he let him go away safely? May the LORD therefore reward you with good in return for what you have done to me this day. “

SIMPLY PUT



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it always has an effect.

1. It will affect the person who is being mean to you.
2. It will affect the people seeing you are be being mistreated.
 - ✓ The world will ask, "How could you treat that person so mean, when they are treating you so good?!"
 - ✓ This, too, might point people to Christ!

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VENGEANCE IS THE LORD

Heb. 20:31 "It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

2 Tim. 4:14 "Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds."

Lamentations 3:60-66 "You have seen all their vengeance, All their schemes against me. You have heard their reproach, O LORD, All their schemes against me. The lips of my assailants and their whispering Are against me all day long. Look on their sitting and their rising; I am their mocking song. You will recompense them, O LORD, According to the work of their hands. You will give them hardness of heart, Your curse will be on them. You will pursue them in anger and destroy them From under the heavens of the LORD!"



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