

THE BELIEVER AND UNBELIEVERS

Romans 12:14-21

1. BLESS THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU (V. 14)

(1 Pet. 3:9; Eph. 4:31-32; Matt. 5:44; Luke 23:34; John 3:16; Luke 6:27, 35; 1 Thess. 5:15; Prov. 25:21)

2. SHOW GENUINE INTEREST IN THE EXPERIENCES OF MEN (V. 15)

a.) Rejoice with them that rejoice (Psalm 35:27; Rom. 12:10; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:12)
b.) Weep with them that weep (Isa. 63:9; Heb. 4:15-16; Acts 20:35; Rom. 15:1; Gal. 6:2; Heb. 13:3; James 1:27; Isa. 58:7)

3. SEEK HARMONY AND ASSOCIATE WITH THE LOWLY (V. 16)

a.) By being of one mind (1 Cor. 1:10; 2 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:3; Phil 1:27; 1 Pet. 3:8)
b.) By not being snobbish (Luke 22:26; Rom. 12:3; James 2:1-4, 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:5, Micah 6:8)
c.) By avoiding conceit (Rom. 12:3; 1 Cor. 8:2; Gal. 6:3; Prov. 3:7; Isa. 5:21)

4. LIVE ABOVE REPROACH (V. 17)

a.) By not reacting (Matt. 5:39, 45; 1 Pet. 3:9; 1 Thess. 5:15; Lev. 19:18; Prov. 20:22, 24:29)
b.) By showing good behavior (Rom. 13:8; 2 Cor. 8:21; Prov. 3:3-4)

5. LIVE AT PEACE WITH ALL (V. 18)

a.) "If possible"
b.) "As much as possible" (Eccl. 10:4; Rom. 12:18, 14:19; Heb. 12:14)

6. GIVE NO PLACE TO REVENGE (V. 19-21)

a.) Vengeance belongs to God (v. 19) (2 Thess. 1:7-8; Heb. 10:30; Deut. 32:35; Psalm 94:1)
b.) Treating an enemy with kindness will affect him greatly (v. 20) (Pro. 25:21-22; Rom. 2:5)
c.) Vengeance makes evil victorious (v. 21) (Matt. 5:39-41, 44; Eph. 4:26-27, 1 Thess. 5:15)

"How many times do we turn people away from Christianity by assuming the same attitude as the world around us?"

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