

Romans # 22

Romans 12⁹⁻²¹

Growing in grace with friend & foe

Lord's day morning: 25 Feb 2007

Preacher: Geoff Findlay

Children's talk: 4 Puppies for sale

Introduction

Grace and graces

Following in the footsteps of the Master

1. How to love your brothers & sisters

Be sincere and selfless (12^{9a})

Be discerning and decisive (12^{9b})

Be caring and considerate (12¹⁰)

Be fervent and faithful (12¹¹)

Be patient and prayerful (12^{12b})

Be generous and joyful (12^{12a,13a})

Be hospitable and hasty (12^{13b})

Be empathetic and earnest (12¹⁵)

Be harmonious and humble (12¹⁶)

2. How to love your enemies

Be not retaliatory or revengeful (12^{17,19})

Be kind and courteous (12¹⁴)

Be peaceable and patient (12¹⁸)

Be proactive and provocative (12²⁰)

Be not overcome, but an overcomer (12²¹)

Conclusion

Graces and grace

Savouring what your Saviour has done for you



Questions answered

- What is the relationship between the grace of God and Christian graces?
- What would be an example of insincere love?
- Can we assume that what other Christians do would be good for us?
- How close are we to cling to those things which are good in God's sight?
- Are we to be suspicious about motives?
- What should spiritual fervour lead us to do?
- What is meant by the term "hospitality"? Whom does it embrace?
- Does living in harmony mean that we become spiritual clones of one another? What does it mean?
- Why do you think Paul intertwines exhortations to love our brethren with exhortations to love our enemies?
- What is meant by "*heaping burning coals on someone's head*"?
- What are some examples from the Bible of men who genuinely loved their enemies?
- How does this list of exhortations point us to the Lord Jesus Christ?



Things to pray about

- Marvel at the love of God who loved us when we were utterly unlovely, and at the power of God in overcoming our opposition to Him.
- Grace to weep with those who weep, and rejoice with those who rejoice.
- Grace to pray with sincerity for those who set themselves against us.



Search the Scriptures

- What similarities are there between this passage and Matthew 5^{1-16, 38-48} in the sermon on the mount?
Why do you think Jesus said this so early on in His ministry?
What are some implications for our own walk and witness with the Lord?