

Sermon Audio Input

Full Msg. Title: Bless Those Who Persecute You
Short Ver. Title: Romans 079
Series Title*: Romans
Text: Romans 12:14
Key Words: Bless, persecute, curse

Message Outline

Bless Those Who Persecute You **Rom 12:12**

- I. **Listen Carefully to the Text in Its Context Identifying the Main Point**
- II. **Consider the Significance of the Main Point**
- III. **Wrestle with How God would Have Us Respond**

Examine the Scriptures (Be Berean!)

- Mat 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-35; Ro 12:20

Consider & Discuss (Be Transformed!)

- There is a word play hidden in the NASB's translation of Rom 12:13 and 14. Verse 13 says "**pursue** hospitality." Verse 14 says, "Bless **those who persecute** you." The word, "pursue" and the phrase, "those who persecute" translate the same Greek word rightly in its different contexts. In the former, the Christian is exhorted to pursue being hospitable to strangers. In the latter the Christian is called to bless even those who pursue their harm. Being alert to the wordplay found in the Greek, does any further meaning or any more concrete exhortation come forward in verse 13 and 14?
- **Community Group Discussion:** Discuss the radical nature of this exhortation to bless especially in light of its 'unnatural' demand upon us. Given Dave's message last week regarding human thought, what would the natural human response be to those who persecute us? How could a person use all of the mind God has given them when persecuted. Finally, how is the Christian, with his or her renewed mind, to think when being persecuted? What do we do with Paul's demand and how do we do it?

Memory & Meditation Verse

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

Romans 12:14

Community Life

- Pray and talk about how we are to participate individually and corporately as a church body with what God is doing in this season of redemptive history?
- Is it your conviction to use the gifts God has given you for the benefit of the members of this local church? If so, communicate with Pastor Johnny and take the extra effort to make sure this is happening as God has intended.
- Talk with Pastor Johnny about your role in the worship services in October.

Next Sunday

Jeremy Premo. Don't miss it!