

**Character Qualities God  
Requires of All Christians  
Romans 12:9-21**

# Review

**Romans 12:1-8** taught us that God desires all Christians to present their redeemed body to Him as a living, holy sacrifice.

We are to stop being conformed to this world. Any attitude, behavior, or goal not in harmony with God's Word is to be stopped.

# Review

We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

Then Paul explained how we are to view ourselves and others. We are members of one body. Just as body parts differ from each other and have different functions, they must work together harmoniously for body health.

# Review

Each Christian is to discover their own place in the body of Christ (the church) and learn how to work together.

To do this, Paul explains the character qualities needed by all Christians in Romans 12:9-21.

# Romans 12:9-21

**Romans 12:9** Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

# Romans 12:9-21

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. <sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

# Romans 12:9-21

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

<sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

# Romans 12:9-21

<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."



# Romans 12:9-21

<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

# Transition

In **Romans 12:9-21**, we have a series of commands teaching us character traits God requires of every Christian.

As we talk about them, take a personal review of yourself and see which ones you need to either add to your life or seek to improve in your life.

# Our Love for Others – 12:9-10

**Romans 12:9** Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

**Definition of love:** - a choice plus thoughtful deliberate behavior. (1 Cor. 13:4-6)

# Our Love for Others – 12:9-10

**1 Sincerity** - <sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine.

**2 Attitude** - Abhor [hate] what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

**3 Kindness** - <sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection.

**4 Thoughtfulness** - Outdo one another in showing honor.

# **Our Spiritual Life – 12:11-12**

**1 Cultivate your spiritual life - <sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.**

**2 Develop a praiseful attitude - <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation,**

**3. A Consistent prayer life - be constant in prayer.**

# **Our treatment of Others – 12:13-15**

## **1 Learn to be generous –**

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

## **2 Learn to bless & not curse -**

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

# Our treatment of Others – 12:13-15

**3. Learn how to empathize** -<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

- Learn to accommodate yourself to people and their emotional responses that are very different from your own.

# Be a Person of Peace 12:16-18

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

<sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.



# Let God Avenge You 12:19-21

<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

# Let God Avenge You 12:19-21

<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- To repay evil for evil is to be overcome by it.
- To repay good for evil is to overcome evil with good.
- This is the example of Jesus for us to follow.

# Conclusion

In **Rom. 12:9-21** we have a series of commands teaching us what God requires of Christians concerning their inner spiritual life and their outward responses to other people – both saved and unsaved.

These are not optional. God will evaluate us at the Judgment seat.

# Application

Read chapter 12 of Romans and make a list of the qualities you need to strengthen or improve.

Pray over these character traits.

Ask God to help you learn how to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to develop them in your life.

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