

Devotional Questions – Romans 12:9-21

1. *Why does Paul follow his instructions on spiritual gifts (Romans 12:4-8) with incentives to love like Jesus?*
2. *What does Paul say our love toward others should be like (Romans 12:9)?*
3. *What is the contrast in our attitude toward good and evil (Romans 12:9)?*
4. *Why are the three commands basic to the Christian life (Romans 12:9)?*
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. *How can I be devoted to my brothers and sisters in Christ (Romans 12:10)?*
6. *What 3 things should the Christian 'be' (Romans 12:12)?*
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
7. *What does it mean to 'bless' those who persecute us (Romans 12:14)?*
8. *Who is my enemy (Romans 12:17-20)?*
9. *Why does Paul say 'if it is possible'** (Romans 12:18. *The correct expression is **"If it be possible"** denoting the maintenance of an on-going, present continuous condition.
10. *What harm does my vengeance produce to the honour of Christ (Romans 12:19-21)?*
11. *How do believers overcome evil (Romans 12:21)?*

Devotional Questions – Romans 12:9-21, Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Romans* pp 488-507 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1503-1504 for detailed comment and www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/ Romans 12 – Summary Thoughts pp 4-10 for additional remarks.

1. *Why does Paul follow his instructions on spiritual gifts (Romans 12:4-8) with incentives to love like Jesus?*

That is Paul's "***more excellent way***" 1 Corinthians 12:31, as he sets out in 1 Corinthians 13:1-8 with respect to "***charity***" which outlasts spiritual gifts. "***Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away***" 1 Corinthians 13:8.

Note that charity is that quality by which "***I will build my church***" Matthew 16:18 such that "***Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied***" Acts 9:31 insofar as "***...Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth***" 1 Corinthians 8:1 with therefore "***...ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost***" Jude 20.

That is why Paul exhorts as equally applicable to today's believer especially within the local church "***But speaking the truth in love...grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love***" Ephesians 4:15-16 "***And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness***" Colossians 3:14.

2. *What does Paul say our love toward others should be like (Romans 12:9)?*

Romans 12:9 states "***Let love be without dissimulation...***" Note that the word "***Let***" is in italics in the AV1611 Text because it has been inserted for correct grammatical sense but it is also authoritative in that it commands that love between believers is not marred by ungodly preferences or favouritism, for whatever reason, as in Galatians 2:11-13 "***But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision. And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation.***"

Paul could therefore say to each of them "***walkest thou not charitably***" Romans 14:15 as indeed he testifies that he did, showing more of the nature of charity or edifying love, "***when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel***" Galatians 2:14.

3. *What is the contrast in our attitude toward good and evil (Romans 12:9)?*

Romans 12:9 states the contrast in that attitude toward good and evil as "***...Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.***" For illustration, see the attached studies **The Superiority of the 1611 Holy Bible over the Greek and the Original** and "***The book of the LORD***" **Isaiah 34:16** from which it is reasonably concluded that:

- 3.1. *Never trust an 'originals-onlyist' with his good words and fair speeches, Romans 16:18. They're all members of the legion, Mark 5:9 "***...My name is Legion: for we are many***".*
- 3.2. *Always follow scripture with scripture, 1 Corinthians 2:13 "***...the words...which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual,***" never critics with their bogus Greek etc.*
- 3.3. *The AV1611 is "***the book of the LORD***" Isaiah 34:16 and there's no such thing as 'other versions' any more than there's "other bank notes" that have someone else's head on the front of them instead of HMQE2's. Anything else is a satanic Catholic counterfeit.*

As Paul therefore exhorts the Thessalonians and today's believer "**Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil**" 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22.

4. *Why are the three commands basic to the Christian life (Romans 12:9)?*

- a.
- b.
- c.

See *Questions 2, 3* and note again Paul's exhortation that effectively fulfils *a, b, c*. "**And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness**" Colossians 3:14.

5. *How can I be devoted to my brothers and sisters in Christ (Romans 12:10)?*

Romans 12:10 states "***Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;***"

Paul explains this devotion in Philippians 2:2-4 "**Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vain-glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.**"

6. *What 3 things should the Christian 'be' (Romans 12:12)?*

- a.
- b.
- c.

Romans 12:12 states "***Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.***" That is the exhortation equally applicable to today's believer that Paul gives the Thessalonians, fulfilling *a, b, c* above.

"See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" 1 Thessalonians 5:15-18.

7. *What does it mean to 'bless' those who persecute us (Romans 12:14)?*

William Tyndale was an outstanding example of Romans 12:14 "***Bless them which persecute you...***" and of its potential good outcome.

See www.greatsite.com/timeline-english-bible-history/william-tyndale.html and this extract.

The Betrayal and Death of William Tyndale

Tyndale was betrayed by a friend, Philips, the agent either of Henry or of English ecclesiastics, or possibly of both. Tyndale was arrested and imprisoned in the castle of Vilvoorden for over 500 days of horrible conditions. He was tried for heresy and treason in a ridiculously unfair trial, and convicted. Tyndale was then strangled and burnt at the stake in the prison yard, Oct. 6, 1536. His last words were, "*Lord, open the king of England's eyes.*" This prayer was answered three years later, in the publication of King Henry VIII's 1539 English "Great Bible".

Peter gives a detailed exhortation to the effect of Romans 12:14 "***Bless them which persecute you...***" and of its potential good outcome. "**But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ**" 1 Peter 3:14-16.

8. *Who is my enemy (Romans 12:17-20)?*

See *Question 7* and Peter's exhortation again.

"But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ" 1 Peter 3:14-16.

9. *Why does Paul say 'if it is possible'** (Romans 12:18. *The correct expression is **"If it be possible"** denoting the maintenance of an on-going, present continuous condition.

Some individuals are like those whom Stephen rebuked. **"Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye"** Acts 7:51. Of the response to them, Paul enjoins steadfastness in **"the gospel of Christ"** Romans 1:16, applicable to today's believer **"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God"** Philippians 1:27-29.

10. *What harm does my vengeance produce to the honour of Christ (Romans 12:19-21)?*

It presumes to take the place of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself at the Second Advent **"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ"** 2 Thessalonians 1:8.

11. *How do believers overcome evil (Romans 12:21)?*

See Peter's exhortation again, noting the shift in emphasis, this time on not being confrontational with opponents but responding to them **"with meekness and fear"** because **"Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..."** 2 Corinthians 5:11 **"That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ"** 2 Thessalonians 1:12.

"But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ" 1 Peter 3:14-16.

The Superiority of the 1611 Holy Bible over the Greek and the Original

A common refrain from the enemies of the 1611 Holy Bible is this:

The AV1611 may be tolerated but it is still inferior to “the Greek” or to “the Original.”

There are at least 8 reasons why the AV1611 is in fact superior to ‘the Greek’ - and to ‘the Original’ [[Biblical Scholarship by Dr Peter S. Ruckman Appendix 7](#)]:

1. The AV1611 uses **“synagogues”** in Psalm 74:8, instead of the Hebrew *“meeting places,”* showing that the reference is yet future, to the great tribulation.
2. The Pre-millennial order of the books from 2 Chronicles to Psalms in the AV1611 preserves the order of events in the history of Israel from the destruction of Jerusalem 70 A.D. to the Second Advent. This order is superior to that of the Hebrew Bible.
3. In an age ruled by the television, **“pictures”** in Numbers 33:52 is far superior to the original Hebrew of *“carved stones.”*
4. The AV1611 alone uses **“forces”** in Daniel 11:38 instead of the literal Hebrew *“fortresses.”* The AV1611 reading is superior because it is a reference to the use of electricity, Luke 10:18, the highest form of energy, especially in the tribulation. See Revelation 13:13. It virtually rules our lives now.
5. The AV1611 has **“churches”** in Acts 19:37, showing where heathen devoted to the **“queen of heaven”** Jeremiah 7:18, 44:17, 18, 19, 25 actually WORSHIP. This is far superior to the ‘original Greek,’ which gives *“temples.”*
6. The AV1611 has **“Easter”** in Acts 12:4 instead of the literal Greek equivalent *“Passover.”* Note that **“(Then were the days of unleavened bread.)”** Acts 12:3. The reading *“Passover”* is obviously wrong in the context. In addition, J. A. Moorman in *Conies Brass and Easter* p 13 states that it was Tyndale who *invented* the word *Passover* but Tyndale used the word **“Easter”** in Acts 12:4 in his New Testament. Tyndale, like the King James translators, understood the scriptures better than modern version editors and their supporters.
7. The tense of the Greek in Galatians 2:20 is *“I have been crucified”* but Luke 9:23 shows that a man is to take up the cross DAILY. The AV1611 reading, **“I am crucified”** is therefore both correct and superior to ‘the Greek.’
8. The AV1611 alone has **“corrupt”** in 2 Corinthians 2:17, where the ‘original Greek’ is *“peddle”* according to the modern revisers. The AV1611 is superior because it is warning you against modern Bible corrupters.

Insistence on ‘the Greek’ or ‘the original’ is really a violation of the priesthood of all believers, 1 Peter 2:5, 9 but fundamentalists do it all the time. They are what Spurgeon called *“little popelings”*!

See *The Greatest Fight in the World* archive.spurgeon.org/misc/gfw.php.

The Bible calls it being **“wise in your own conceits”** Romans 11:25.

Additional Note: Regenerative Translations Superior to Degenerative Originals

It should be understood that anyone who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called and invariably undefined, over the King James English is saying that the word of God has lost information in transmission i.e. translation. Fundamentalists repeatedly say words to that effect. However, if the word of God has lost information in translation, it has degenerated. If the word of God is subject to degeneration, then anyone who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called, over the King James English is saying that the Lord Jesus Christ lied when He said as recorded 3 times in scripture ***“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away”*** Matthew 24:35, Mark 13:31, Luke 21:33.

In addition, your salvation is predicated on the integrity and incorruptibility of ***“the word of God”*** as Peter states ***“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever”*** 1 Peter 1:23. Anyone therefore who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called, over the King James English is saying that the apostle Peter lied because the word of God is subject to degeneration and is therefore corruptible.

Therefore your salvation is subject to degeneration and it too is corruptible.

Further, anyone who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called, over the King James English is also saying that the apostle James lied when he said ***“...receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls”*** James 1:21.

There’s no point because it isn’t and it won’t, according to anyone who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called, over the King James English.

That is, you don’t have salvation and you can never have it, according to anyone who appeals to the original, so-called, or the Greek and the Hebrew, so-called, over the King James English.

That’s about as blasphemous as it gets but fundamentalists do it all the time.

You should of course be encouraged that translation is not degenerative but is always *regenerative*, an improvement over the original in scripture:

“So do God to Abner, and more also, except, as the LORD hath sworn to David, even so I do to him; To translate the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan even to Beersheba” 2 Samuel 3:9-10.

“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” Colossians 1:13.

“By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God” Hebrews 11:5.

“The book of the LORD” Isaiah 34:16

Introduction

“**The book of the LORD**” is the 1611 Holy Bible. There is no other. **“Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them”** Isaiah 34:16.



Practical Considerations

- The Lord has *one* Book, **“the book of the LORD”** Isaiah 34:16, the *one* mention of that phrase in scripture.
- The Lord’s *one* Book, **“the book of the LORD”** therefore matches the *oneness* of **“one body, and one Spirit,...one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all”** Ephesians 4:4-6.
- The Lord’s *one* Book, **“the book of the LORD”** is for **“every man...in his own language”** Acts 2:6 insofar as **“Peter...with the eleven”** Acts 2:14 **“were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance”** Acts 2:4 such that the listeners said **“hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born...we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God”** Acts 2:8, 11.
- The Lord’s *one* Book, **“the book of the LORD”** therefore exists in many languages, *but the standard for “the book of the LORD” is the 1611 Holy Bible in English.*

See store-hicb8.mybigcommerce.com/content/bbb/2013/Aug.pdf p 6 *A Brief Analysis of Missionary Authority* by Jonathan Richmond, Bible Baptist Mission Board director.

*The espousal of a particular translation being equal to or superior to the **King James** leaves one in a precarious position in relation to Bible believers versus the Alexandrian Cult.*

*Bible believers believe that the **King James (Authorized Version)** is the perfect, inerrant words of God and is the final authority. It is the standard to which all versions and translations are compared. And since the AV is the standard, it is superior to anything and everything that is compared to it. Stated another way, nothing compared to the standard is equal to or superior to the standard. English is the standard for time, place, distance, size, quantity, volume, language, etc. When the English standard showed up, both the German and Spanish Bibles [i.e. any non-English Bible] should have been corrected and/or updated with the English.*

The Greek Textus Receptus (any edition) is not superior to English. It was an interim, early New Testament, a stepping stone to the purification of the words of God in English. The world does not speak Greek and never will again...

Jonathan Richmond concludes with a rebuke to ‘originals-onlyists’ and ‘Greekiolators’:

*So then **your** brain determines which is correct; **your** brain is the final authority; **you** have made **yourself** equal to God.*

As Gail Ripplinger has rightly said, *In Awe of Thy Word* p 956, this writer’s emphases:

*The desire to appear intelligent or superior by referring to ‘the Greek’ and downplaying the common man’s Bible, exposes a naivety concerning textual history and those documents which today’s pseudo-intellectuals call ‘the critical text,’ ‘the original Greek,’ the ‘Majority Text,’ or the ‘Textus Receptus.’ **There existed a true original Greek (i.e. Majority Text, Textus Receptus). It is not in print and never will be, because it is unnecessary. No one on the planet speaks first century Koine Greek, so God is finished with it. He needs no ‘Dead Bible Society’ to translate it into “everyday English,” using the same corrupt secularised lexicons used by the TNIV, NIV, NASB and HCSB***

[Holman Christian Standard Bible]. *God has not called readers to check his Holy Bible for errors. He has called his Holy Bible to check us for errors.*"

- The Lord's one Book, "**the book of the LORD**" is:
 - "**the book of the covenant**" Exodus 24:7, 2 Kings 23:2, 21, 2 Chronicles 34:30, "**the everlasting covenant**" Hebrews 13:20 between God and believers
 - "**thy book**" Exodus 32:32, one witness to "**the book of the LORD**"
 - "**my book**" Exodus 32:33, two witnesses, 2 Corinthians 13:1, to "**the book of the LORD**"
 - "**the book of the law of God**" Joshua 24:26, Nehemiah 8:18 i.e. "**the book of the law of the LORD**" 2 Chronicles 17:9, 34:14, Nehemiah 9:3 or simply "**the book of the law**" Joshua 8:31, 34, 2 Kings 22:8, 11, 2 Chronicles 34:15, Nehemiah 8:3, Galatians 3:10. That Book is now "**the law of Christ**" Galatians 6:2.
 - "**the book of the living**" Psalm 69:28 i.e. "**the book of life**" Philippians 4:3, Revelation 3:5, 17:8, 20:12, 15, 22:19, "**the book of life of the Lamb**" Revelation 13:8, "**the Lamb's book of life**" Revelation 21:27
 - "**the book of the LORD**" Isaiah 34:16
 - "**the book of the purchase**" Jeremiah 32:12 for "**the purchased possession**" Ephesians 1:14, "**us accepted in the beloved**" Ephesians 1:6. See AV1611 Authority - Absolute www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/version-comparison.php.

Principles of Understanding

- The Lord does *not* recognise "**many books**" Ecclesiastes 12:12 i.e. multiple *differing* translations in any one language. That is "**confused noise**" Isaiah 9:5 and "**God is not the author of confusion**" 1 Corinthians 14:33.
- The Lord has *commanded* "**Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read.**" That is, "**the book of the LORD**" not "**many books**" must be *sought after* and *read*.
- The command "**Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read**" can only be fulfilled if "**the book of the LORD**" is in "**words easy to be understood**" 1 Corinthians 14:9.
- An 'originals-onlyist' does not and never can have *one* Book to seek after and read. 'Originals-onlyism' is among the "**damnable heresies**" 2 Peter 2:1.

Permanence of "the book of the LORD"

- "**no one of these shall fail**" because "**the word of the Lord endureth for ever**" 1 Peter 1:25 and is "**The words of the LORD**" Psalm 12:6. "**Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts**" Jeremiah 15:16.
- "**none shall want her mate**" because those words are "**the words...which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual**" 1 Corinthians 2:13 i.e. cross-referencing of "**the words...which the Holy Ghost teacheth**" so that the student "**might understand the scriptures**" Luke 24:45.
- "**my mouth it hath commanded**" because it is "**the word which he commanded to a thousand generations**" 1 Chronicles 16:15, Psalm 105:8 and "**the word of the Lord**" 1 Peter 1:25 is "**The words of the LORD**" Psalm 12:6 with Jeremiah 15:16 "**Thy words...thy word.**"
- "**and his spirit it hath gathered them**" because "**the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life**" John 6:63 and "**the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost...he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you**" John 14:26.

Therefore "**receive with meekness the engrafted word**" James 1:21 "**the book of the LORD**" as "**obedient children**" 1 Peter 1:14 without any "**Not so, Lord**" Acts 10:14.