




## Romans: Revenge

Romans 12:17-21; Matthew 5:38-41  
Adam Jones, September 29 & 30, 2018

### Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read the sermon scripture(s) listed above. What stands out to you? What do you find interesting and/or important? What is challenging or causes you to have questions?

### Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1 Have you ever been guilty of acting like the jockey in the movie, Seabiscuit?
- 2 What was your one, big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

#### REVEALING OUR REVENGE

- 3 The saying goes, "Don't get mad, get even!" How would you define revenge in your own words? What are some examples of revenge?
- 4 We live in interesting times. Discuss the following quote by John Wesley.  
"I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election, and advised them (1) to vote for the person they judged most worthy, (2) to speak no evil of the person they voted against, and (3) to take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side."

- 5 Adam said that all of us have an “inner lawyer”. What does our “inner lawyer” do? How does forgiving and not taking revenge free both the offender and the offended?

### REPAY EVIL WITH GOOD

- 6 *Give thought.* Think about a person with whom you are currently in conflict. How can you strategically love him/her and meet his/her needs?
- 7 *Be honorable.* How were Dan Cathy’s (Chick-fil-A) interactions with Shane Windemeyer honorable? Are your interactions with those you disagree with honorable?
- 8 *Be at peace.* Read Romans 12:18 again. Have you ever asked God in a situation where you were holding a grudge whether you had done everything you could? Is there ever a situation when it is appropriate to have nothing to do with another person?

### REDEEMER OF OUR REVENGE

- 9 Discuss the following quote by Dan Allender.  
“Vengeance is part of the character of God and not in contradiction with his love and mercy.”
- 10 Read Psalm 54:5, 58:6, and 139:19. How can these prayers be faithfully prayed by God’s people? Read 1 Samuel 24:19. How is this a universal question that all people ask?
- 11 How does believing the gospel affect your view of revenge? How is Jesus the “redeemer” of revenge?

## **Step 3: Final Reflections**

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?