

INSIGHTS ON ROMANS: THE CHRISTIAN'S CONSTITUTION

DOING RIGHT WHEN YOU'VE BEEN DONE WRONG

ROMANS 12:14, 17-21



The Heart of the Matter

Paul unpacked the all-important virtue of love in the closing 13 verses of Romans 12. As he reached the end of this section, he addressed one of life's most practical problems: how to respond correctly to wrongdoing. His pen strikes like a needle as we read his words that touch an extremely sensitive nerve and expose our conditioned reflex to hit back. Common sense whispers, *You need to defend yourself*. Public opinion goes even further, shouting, *Don't be a fool—get even!* Like a rattlesnake, the flesh stays coiled within us, ready to strike. Even in our ranks as Christians, retaliation remains one of our favorite carnal sports. But, as we shall learn in this message, there's a supernatural alternative to our natural reaction.



Discovering the Way

1. Listen to a Story (1 Samuel 16-24)

David's attitude and actions are a model of godly restraint and trust—even while he was being actively pursued by Saul, whose evil scheme was to kill David.

2. Observe the Principles (Romans 12:14, 17-20)

When we've been wronged, we must deliberately resist our "natural" instinct for revenge (Romans 12:14), consciously fight our tendency to "get even" (12:17-18), and quietly trust God to handle all revenge (12:19-20).

3. Consider the Alternative (Romans 12:21)

When we've been wronged, we must not give in to the evil of vengeance but overcome that evil with the goodness of doing things God's way.

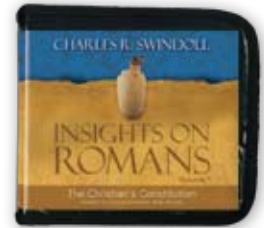


Starting Your Journey

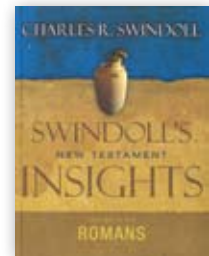
Modeling the message will not be easy because it requires you to be broken.



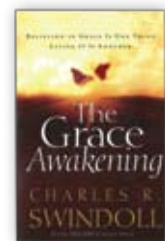
Tools for Digging Deeper



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