

Making Peace

Romans 12:17-21

Stay above the fray (vv. 17-18)

You don't have to play their game (v. 17a)

Think, then act (v. 17b)

Don't be FAT (feel/act/think)

The right mind leads to peace (Philippians 4:8-9)

"good" = outward expression of inner goodness (can you say "purity"?)

The last clear chance (v. 18)...don't be the perpetrator

Let God work (v. 19)

"avenge" = away from the law; your own justice

"give place to wrath"...THE wrath...God's wrath (and consider the next chapter)

God vengeance isn't retaliation or vindictiveness...strictly righteous justice

Quotes: Deuteronomy 32:35; also found in Hebrews 10:30-31

Be Jesus to your enemies (v. 20)

Passive to active (making, not keeping peace): Matt. 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-31

"heap coals of fire" (from Proverbs 25:21-22)

Possible divine judgment (Psalm 18:13)

May be repentance or shame

Work for good (v. 21)

"overcome" = *nikaō*

Our evil as well as theirs

This goes for church as well – 1 Peter 3:8-12 (Psalm 34:12-16)