



LIVE PEACEABLY

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Romans 12:17-21*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

Today we live in a world of unbelievers, and *God's Word* advises us to recompense to no man evil for evil, but overcome evil with good (*Romans 12:17; Hebrews 2:1-4*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men (Romans 12:18).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. *God's Word* advises believers to expect evil at the hands of unbelievers. However, we are not to strike back (*I Peter 3:8-9*).
2. Our Christian duty as believers is to provide things honest in the sight of all men (*Romans 12:17; II Corinthians 8:21; Philippians 4:8-9*).
3. The *Bible* says, "as much as lieth in you." It does not say you have to get along with everyone, so just do the best that you can and leave the rest to the Lord Jesus Christ (*Matthew 5:44-48; Luke 6:27-33; Romans 12:18*).
4. Vengeance belongs to the Lord Jesus Christ; He will repay, and resolve every situation for us all (*Romans 12:19-20; II Thessalonians 1:5-10; Hebrews 10:30-31*).
5. God's love and goodness are powerful spiritual weapons that bring both believers and unbelievers victory in Christ Jesus (*Matthew 22:35-40; Romans 12:21*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

Christian believers must provide things honest in the sight of all men as our mission is to promote the Gospel of the Kingdom of God to men, women, and children everywhere. When we encounter a person that we just cannot get along with, it may be because they won't let you get along with them. Therefore, *God's Word* stated in *Romans 12:18* denotes, "*If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably.*" (*Hebrews 12:14-15; James 3:17-18*)

The *Bible* teaches Christian believers how to maintain a personal relationship with unbelievers, especially those who are difficult to get along with. We must pray for them and leave all things in prayer to Jesus Christ, the Almighty God, and He will answer. We are not to overcome evil with evil, but to overcome evil with good (*Proverbs 20:22; I Thessalonians 5:15; I Peter 3:8-9*).

Unbelievers who have not accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, Master, and Lord live their lives according to the world's system and tactics. Hence, our Christian responsibility is to testify and invite them to come and accept Jesus Christ's plan of salvation for their souls (*Mark 1:14-15, 16:15-18; Acts 2:36-38, 4:12*).

LESSON SUMMARY:

When we take matters into our own hands, we take it out of Jesus Christ's control and we are no longer walking by faith. Let Jesus handle it in a just manner, and you will be amazed. Jesus Christ will always do a much better job than we could ever do (*Galatians 5:13-15*).

As Christian believers, we must call upon the name of Jesus Christ and plead for His precious Blood to help us in our daily walk with Him and with unbelievers. We have God's Holy Spirit to lead and guide us; we must live peaceably and walk in the Spirit to not fulfill the lust of the flesh (*Galatians 5:16, 22-25; Philippians 4:5-7*).

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