

Responding Right When Wronged
Romans 12:17-21

How not to respond when we are wronged:

- Don't return evil for evil/ seek revenge. 17a, 19a
OT: Lev. 19:28, Prov. 20:22, 24:29
NT: Matt. 5:43,44, Lk. 6:27,28, I Pt. 3:8,9, I Thess. 5:15
- Don't be overcome by evil. 21a
What would this imply? See Eph. 4:26,27.

How instead to respond when we are wronged:

- Do what is right in the sight of all mankind. 17b
Consider your public testimony, II Cor. 8:21, Matt. 5:16, I Pt. 2:12.
- Do what will make for peace. 18
Seek peace not paybacks, 14:19, Prov. 15:1, Matt. 5:9, Heb. 12:14.
- Rely on God to avenge wrongs done. 19b
It's God's job to avenge (Deut. 32:35. Nah. 1:2,3, I Thess. 4:6);
and we can rest in that, II Thess. 1:6ff, II Tim. 4:14, Rev. 6:9,10.
- React with helpful kindness to those who wrong us. 20
Recall v. 14. *Coals of fire on one's head* = for repentance or for retribution? See Prov. 25:21,22, Ps. 11:6, 140:9,10, Rom. 2:4,5.
- Overcome evil with good. 21b
We win regardless of our oppressors' response if we don't seek our own revenge. See Jesus in I Pt. 2:21-23 as our model.

