

# Overcoming Evil with Good; Part 1

**Romans 12:14-16**

**March 12, 2023**

What is the full extent of our potential?

What can diving love accomplish in me and through me?

What is evil?

“Bless those who persecute you.” Wow. That is a big ask.

How do we deal with evil? How do we attack it? How do we overcome it?

How can I, as an individual Christian, overcome evil with good?

How can I? (1 Peter 3:9; Luke 6:27-28)

Can we overcome evil with good?           Where does that ability come from?

You are filled with the Spirit, so be Spirit-filled. Do what only the Spirit can do.

## **Blessing your Persecutors v 14**

If you think you are spiritually strong and healthy, try to lift this one. (Luke 6:27-35)

What about “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth?”

Jesus asks more of us than mere justice.

## **Conform Yourself to the Real Needs of Others v 15**

Enter into the joy of those who rejoice.

Enter into the sorrow of those who weep.

## **Strive to Maintain a Gracious Mind Toward Others (v 16)**

A mean neighbor is a poor Christian.

We are to have a gracious concern and a kind deportment toward all men. Look at v 18.

We need to treat others as bearing the image of God.

## **Don't Think of Yourself as Superior to Others**

We must associate with the lowly.

Don't be conceited. So Full of yourself that you have no room for others.

This humility is one way that we overcome evil with Good.

## **How do we Overcome Evil with Good?**

We strive to bless those who persecute us; we love our enemies.

We strive to shape ourselves, our words and actions, to the real needs of others.

We strive to maintain a gracious mind toward all men.

We can overcome evil with God.