

How Are We to Handle Contentious Siblings?

1. Folks in Rome Were Proclaiming Christ with Mixed Motives

2. How Do We Rightly Understand Embittered Christians?

3. Rejoice in Christ's Name Being Made Glorious!

CONCLUSION: Sometimes it is more difficult to forgive family members for the wounds they inflict than it is to forgive our enemies. Paul shows us how trust in Christ frees us from getting embittered by jealousy and envy. We can rejoice in the progress of the gospel despite hardships because God is faithfully using what look like setbacks to us for the spread of His glory. Let us with Paul rejoice!

Romans 12:1-5

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you *not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think*, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵*so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.*

First Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you *rejoice*, though now for a little while, if necessary, *you have been grieved by various trials*, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found *to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ*. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and *rejoice with joy that is inexpressible* and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Deuteronomy 12:7

And there you shall eat before the Lord your God, and *you shall rejoice*, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the Lord your God has blessed you.