

# ROMANS 51 – 12:11-21

## *The Business of Good Works*

### 1. 12:10-11

- a. *"ye are taught of God to love one another"* - 1 Thess 4:9, How? 1 Thess 4:10-12
- b. How do you show love? Gal 5:13 – a good business is one that serves people
- c. *"in honour preferring"* - honour = esteem with value – 1 Tim 5:3, 5:17-18, Phil 2:2-3
- d. *"not slothful in business"* – Work is good, be productive, not lazy for the Lord
  - i. People use religious pious reasons not to work – 2 Thess 3:6, 10-15
  - ii. What about charity and the poor → Eph 4:28, 1 Tim 6:18
- e. *"fervent in spirit"* – which means it is not good to be apathetic – Gal 4:17-18
- f. *"serving the Lord"* – The direction of your zeal is toward God's will – Eph 6:5-6

### 2. 12:12

- a. This verse beckons back to Romans 5 to the source of our strength – Rom 5:2, 8:18
- b. Our hope does not depend on our strength to make it happen, but his – Phil 4:13
- c. *"rejoicing in hope"* → The riches of glory – Eph 1:18, 3:16; Col 1:27
- d. *"patient in tribulation"* – An attribute of God's ministers – 2Cor 6:4, 12:12; 1Tim 3:3
  - i. Patience comes from hope found in God's word – Col 1:11, Rom 15:4
- e. *"continuing instant in prayer"* – How do you rejoice, how are you patient? Prayer.
- f. Without prayer hope dies and we live full of care in the present – Phil 4:4-7
- g. Unceasing prayer is the maintenance of your faith and hope - 1Thess 5:8,16-18

### 3. 12:13-17

- a. *"distributing ..."* – Christians studying distribution advanced modern economics
  - i. Paul explains some rules to Timothy about church welfare - 1 Tim 5:5-11
- b. *"given to hospitality"* – This concerns generosity without reward, even to strangers
- c. *"bless them that persecute..."* – Which is as old as Job 31:29-30, and Jesus -Luke 6:44
  - i. This is contrary to how people behave in political and religious battles
- d. *"rejoice with them..."* – Your mind should be the mind of Phil 2:3-4
  - i. Service to others was apparently a problem for grace believers - 1Tim 6:1
- e. *"provide things honest..."* – Doing your own work in wisdom - 1Thes 4:12, Col 4:5
- f. *"live peaceably with all men"* – You are not the cause of the division – 1 Tim 2:1-2

### 4. 12:19-21

- a. *"give place to wrath"* – speaking of authorities, it is not yours to give wrath
- b. *"vengeance is mine"* – It is God's and does not reside with each man – Deu 32:35
- c. God avenges, he is just, and will not acquit the wicked – Ecc 5:8, 2Ths 1:9, Eph 5:6
- d. *"heap coals of fire..."* – which is not to harm, but help – quote of Proverbs 25:22-23
- e. *"overcome evil with good"* - which is the duty of the church under grace – Gal 6:10