



**Sermon Outline  
December 10, 2023  
Pastor Bryan Myers**

**The Only Helpful  
Response To Evil**

**Romans 12:21**

\* **What goes on in your \_\_\_\_\_ affects every other area of your life.**

\* **What you learn influences how you \_\_\_\_\_.**

\* **How you think influences what you \_\_\_\_\_.**

\* **What you believe influences how you \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Romans 12:2a** - Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

### **Lesson #12 - University of Practical Faith**

**Romans 12:21** - Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

\* **Our natural tendency is to return \_\_\_\_\_.**

- **When someone \_\_\_\_\_ us.**

- **When someone takes \_\_\_\_\_ of us.**

- **When someone \_\_\_\_\_ us.**

\* **Apathy enables evil. Evil \_\_\_\_\_ evil.**

*\* The temptation when we face some kind of evil or injustice is to fight fire with fire.*

\* **The dilemma is that the cycle of revenge is never \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. – Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**3 John 1:11** - Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God.

\* **Repaying evil with good sounds like a great concept but is a challenge to practice, requiring \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Romans 12:1** - Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of **God's mercy**, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

\* **Extending mercy is a \_\_\_\_\_ response.**

- **Grace is getting what you \_\_\_\_\_ deserve.**

- **Mercy is \_\_\_\_\_ getting what you deserve.**

**Caution:** *Don't confuse your responsibility as a Christ-follower with the responsibility of the government.*

**Romans 13:4** - For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

### **Jesus' practicum on overcoming evil with good:**

**Matthew 5:38-39a** - You have heard that it was said, "Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth." But I tell you, do not resist an evil person...

- **Turn the other \_\_\_\_\_.**

- **Give \_\_\_\_\_ and beyond.**

- **Go the \_\_\_\_\_ mile.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **for your oppressor.**

**Overcoming evil with good prayer:** *God, this hurts! I'm angry about it, but I know my anger won't solve the problem or change the person. So I trust in You. I'm going to be kind instead of responding in kind. I'm going to keep doing good, because that's what You put me here for. And as I trust You and go about blessing others, I'm going to extend mercy in this situation and believe you will vindicate me as you see fit.*