

## “Short Exhortations”

Romans 12:9-21 9/17/17

Today, we'd like to see the title of “Short Exhortations” in the book of Romans 12:9-21.

To Online Word's people on the earth, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 11, “not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord,” what does it mean? And how can we make application of this?

Q2. In verse 12, “rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer,” what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q3. In verse 20, “Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head,”” What does it mean? And how can we put this in practice in our own life?

### (Background)

In the last time, in Romans 12:7-8, “or ministry, *let us use it in our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> he who exhorts, in exhortation,” let's focus main things, that is, a minister on ministry (not being served), teacher on teaching (not gossiping), and exhorter on exhortation (not entertaining), and “he who gives, with liberality,” donor should give with liberality or simplicity, not a big fuss, and “he who leads, with diligence,” if God calls you to a place of leadership, then be diligent about the leadership,” and “he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness,” a mercy giver should be cheerful, not threatening. If you forgive somebody, be cheerful. Praise the Lord! God is great. I forgive you now.

Then, today Paul lists short little exhortations.

### (Text)

<sup>9</sup> Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil.  
Cling to what is good.

<sup>10</sup> Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

<sup>1</sup>= love (Agape love, God's love) be without hypocrisy [dissimulation] (Love should be genuine, without any hidden hatred heart); Abhor what is evil (God's character; if you are tolerant of evil, it is not God's will <sup>1</sup> *Proverbs 8:12-13*); Cling to what is good (goodness is God's characteristic. So, cling/cleave/ stick to God <sup>2</sup> *Psalm 136:1*)

<sup>10</sup>= Be kindly... brotherly love (brotherly love is Philia, e.g. Philadelphia (=Philia + adelpos); preference to one another (you first, and I am next, not intercepting, e.g. <sup>3</sup> *Gen 13:8-9*)

<sup>1</sup> *Proverbs 8:12-13* “I, wisdom, dwell with prudence. And find out knowledge and discretion. <sup>13</sup> The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

<sup>2</sup> *Psalm 136:1* Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

<sup>3</sup> *Gen 13:8-9* So Abram said to Lot. “Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we are brethren. <sup>9</sup> Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If you take the

<p><u>11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;</u></p>	<p>11=Q1 not lagging[slothful] in diligence (not be lazy or slow in diligence); fervent in spirit, serving the Lord (rejoice always to serve the Lord; excited to serve the Lord; not complain to serve the Lord because upon complaining service we are neglecting the Lord Himself because the Lord is a joy giver and would never violate human free will (no involuntary servitude!), e.g. Martha <sup>4</sup> <i>Luke 10:40-42</i>, your service to the Lord, not to men – don't be upset even if served sheep upset you. Ask the Lord and pray for them. <sup>5</sup> <i>Colossians 3:23-24</i>)</p>
<p><u>12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;</u></p>	<p>12=Q2 rejoicing in hope (hope to see Christ, hope to receive rewards in heaven, hope to live in heavenly kingdom with the Lord &amp; other saints, overflowing love, and other godly things, e.g. Paul's prayer for sheep <sup>6</sup> <i>Eph 1:16-18</i>); patience in tribulation (tribulations or trials produce patience or perseverance, which produces perfect faith <sup>7</sup> <i>Romans 5:3-5</i>; <i>James 1:2-4</i>); continuing steadfastly [instant] in prayer (whenever a problem comes, you need ask the Lord instantly or steadfastly, i.e., constant prayer, always pray, pray without ceasing.</p>
<p><u>13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.</u></p>	<p>13= distributing to the needs of the saints (We usually provide a or two boxes of food, drink, and clothes to the needy people, giving thanks that CCAH is such a giving church); given to hospitality (invite someone to your home or a restaurant as a token of Jesus' love)</p>
<p><u>14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.</u></p>	<p>14= Bless those who persecute you (Bless those persecutors,, rather than curse them, get even with them, do an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. We could not bless them by ourselves but the power of the Holy Spirit through us blesses them, as Jesus teaches in <sup>8</sup> <i>Matthew 5:44</i>.)</p>
<p><u>15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.</u></p>	<p>15= Rejoice with those who rejoice (Rejoice with rejoicing people – have empathy with them, not jealous of them); weep with those who weep (Weep with weeping people – have empathy with them, not laughing at them)</p>

left, then I will go to the right; or, if you go to the right, then I will go to the left.”

<sup>4</sup> *Luke 10:40-42* But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, “Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.” <sup>41</sup> And Jesus answered and said to her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. <sup>42</sup> But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.”

<sup>5</sup> *Colossians 3:23-24* And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

<sup>6</sup> *Eph 1:16-18* do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, <sup>18</sup> the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

<sup>7</sup> *Romans 5:3-5* And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance [patience]; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us; *James 1:2-4* My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. <sup>4</sup> But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing

<sup>8</sup> *Matthew 5:44* But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

<p><u>16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.</u></p> <p><u>17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.</u></p> <p><u>18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.</u></p> <p><u>19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.</u></p> <p><u>20 Therefore “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”</u></p> <p><u>21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.</u></p>	<p>16= Be of the same mind toward one another (because we are one body of Christ) Do not set your mind on high things (don't be arrogant or proud); associate with the humble (because God gives grace to the humble, e.g. <sup>9</sup>Acts 10:25-26 ); Do not be wise in your own opinion [conceits] (don't pretend to be wise)</p> <p>17= Repay [recompense] no one for evil (Don't get even with them, don't do an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth); Have regard for good things [things honest] in the sight of all men (Be honest before people; Be good before people; don't have hidden trick; be open and sincere to people!)</p> <p>18= If it is possible, as much as depends on [lies in] you, live peaceably with all men (Be a peacemaker, not a trouble maker or a friction maker <sup>10</sup>Mat 5:9)</p> <p>19= do not avenge yourselves (Don't be avenger; Don't take vengeance); but rather give place to wrath (put aside wrath or vengeance to God, because...); "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay" <sup>11</sup>Deut 32:35)</p> <p>20=Q3 If your enemy is hungry, feed him (feed the hungry enemy); If he is thirsty, give him a drink (give a drink to the thirsty enemy; Do good to your enemy; if you forgive an enemy even who doesn't repent, your forgiving spirit liberates you from the root of bitterness); in so doing, you will heap coals of fire on his head (cited <sup>12</sup>Proverbs 25:21-22; Psalm 140:10; It means you are doing good to enemy and God will avenge the enemy and reward you in His time and way.)</p> <p>21= not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good (Don't let evil get a victory over you, but overcome the evil with good; Note if you mediate every verse, you will be blessed.)</p>
--	---

**All quotations are taken, except King James Version (KJV), from New King James Version (NKJV), ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved. © Copyright 2017 by Wayne Kim. All rights reserved. No part of this material may be reproduced in any forms or by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher, except for brief quotations in critical articles or reviews.**

<sup>9</sup> Acts 10:25-26 "As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. <sup>26</sup> But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man."

<sup>10</sup> Mat 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>11</sup> Deut 32:35 Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity is at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.'

<sup>12</sup> Proverbs 25:21-22 If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

<sup>22</sup> For so you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you; Psalm 140:10 Let burning coals fall upon them; Let them be cast into the fire, Into deep pits, that they rise not up again (from 1-3, "Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; Preserve me from violent men, <sup>2</sup>Who plan evil things in their hearts; They continually gather together for war. <sup>3</sup>They sharpen their tongues like a serpent; The poison of asps is under their lips. Selah.)