



CHANGING YOUR WORLD THROUGH

PRAYER

Part 3

Authority to Contend for Unbelievers



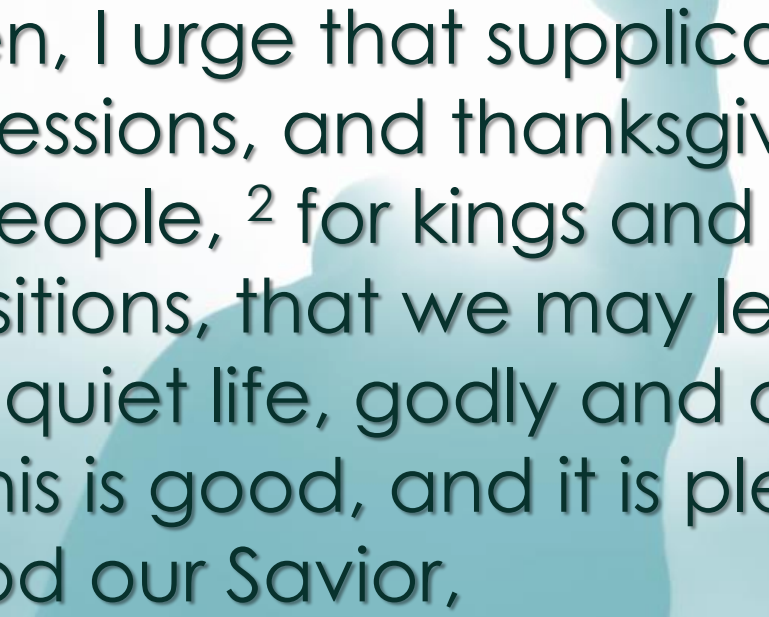
INTERCESSION



The English word is derived from Latin intercedo, "to come between," which strangely has the somewhat opposed meanings of "obstruct" and "to interpose on behalf of" a person, and finally "to intercede."

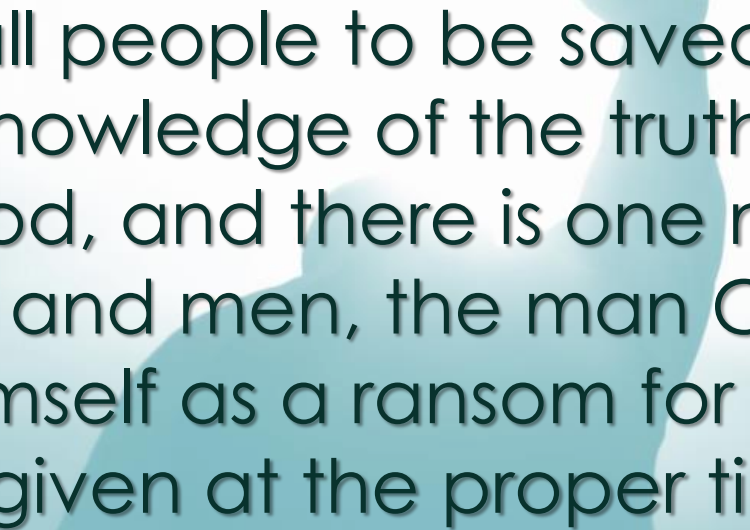
1 Timothy 2:1-6

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,



1 Timothy 2:1-6

⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.





Maintain a Witness of Righteousness

Maintain a Heart of Compassion

Maintain the Hope of Justice

A silhouette of a person is shown against a bright, hazy background. The person's right arm is raised, with the hand open and fingers spread. The overall tone is light and ethereal.

Maintain a Witness of Righteousness

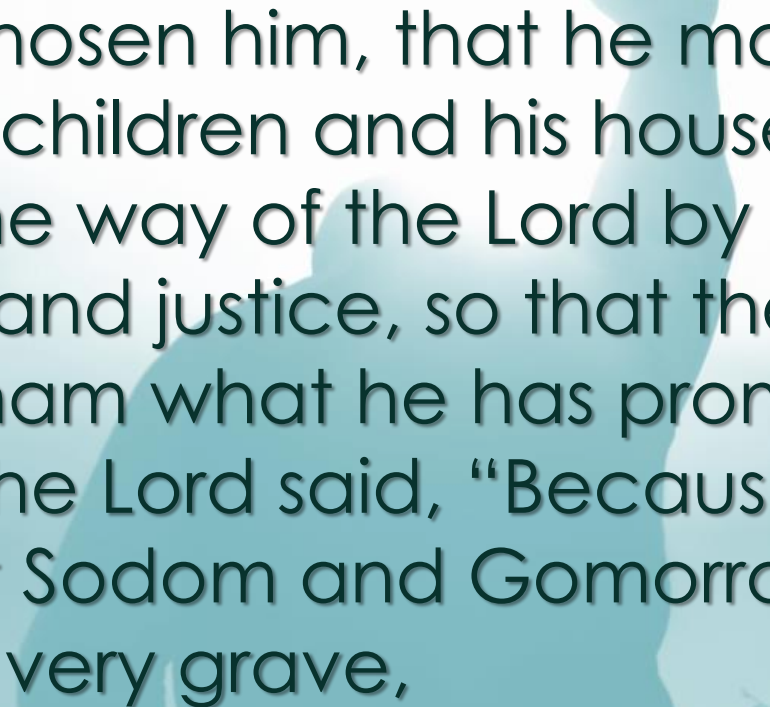
Genesis 18:16-21

¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way.

¹⁷ The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?”

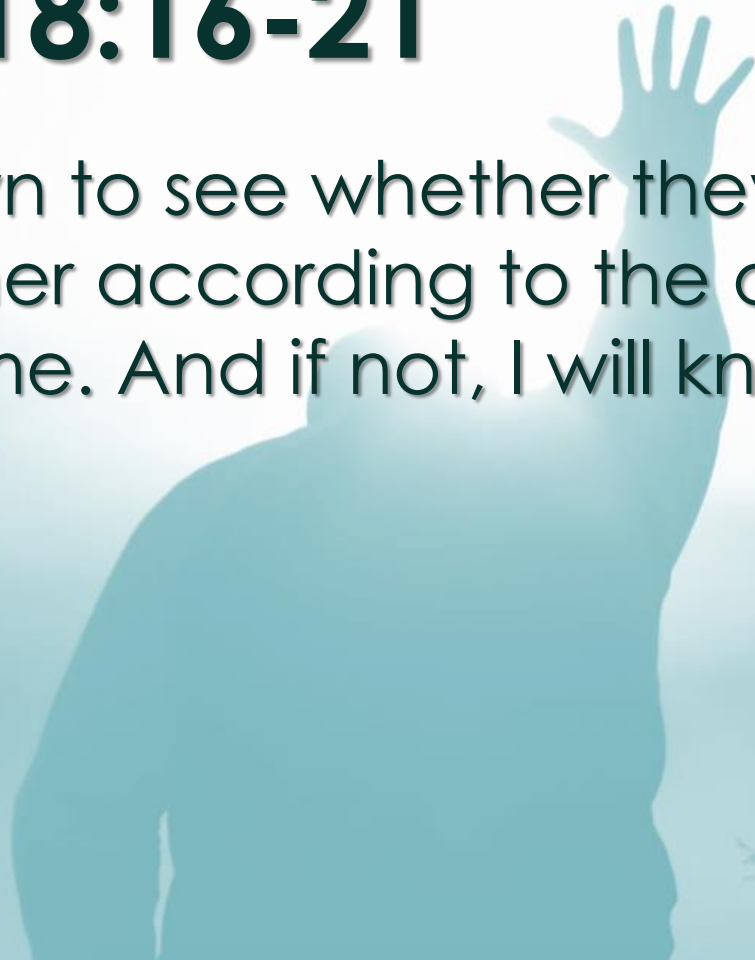
Genesis 18:16-21

¹⁹ For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” ²⁰ Then the Lord said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave,



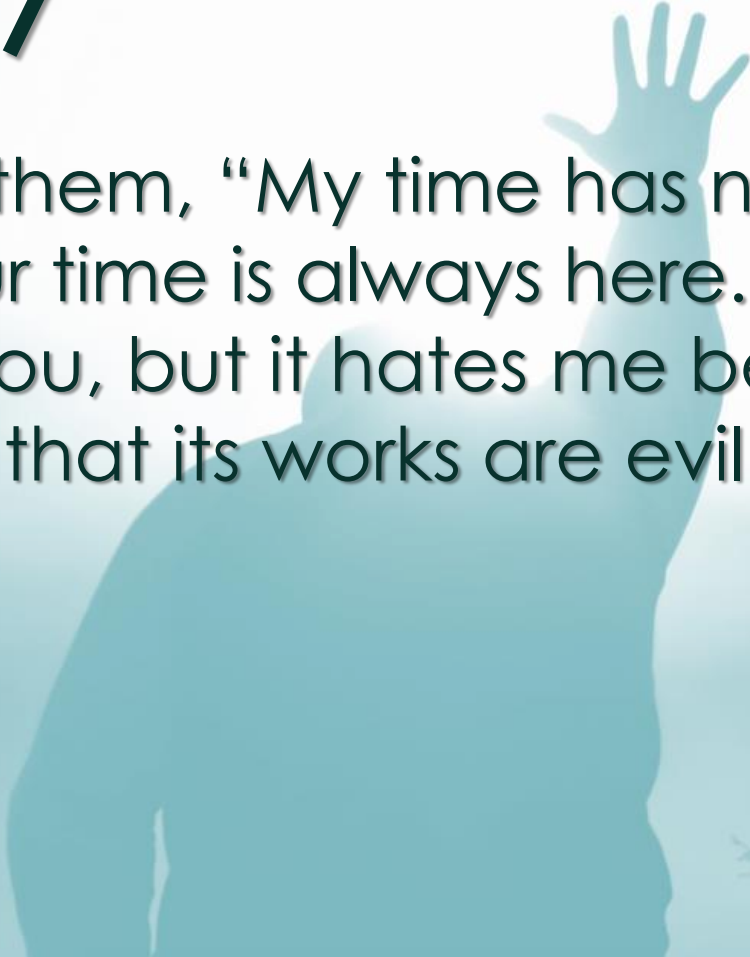
Genesis 18:16-21

²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”



John 7:6-7

⁶ Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.

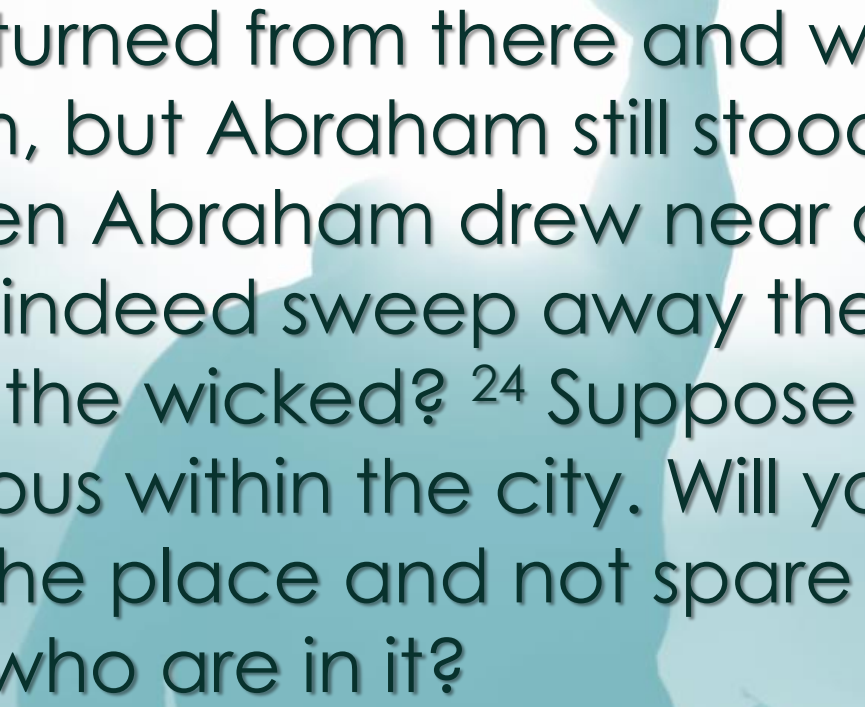


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Maintain a Heart of Compassion

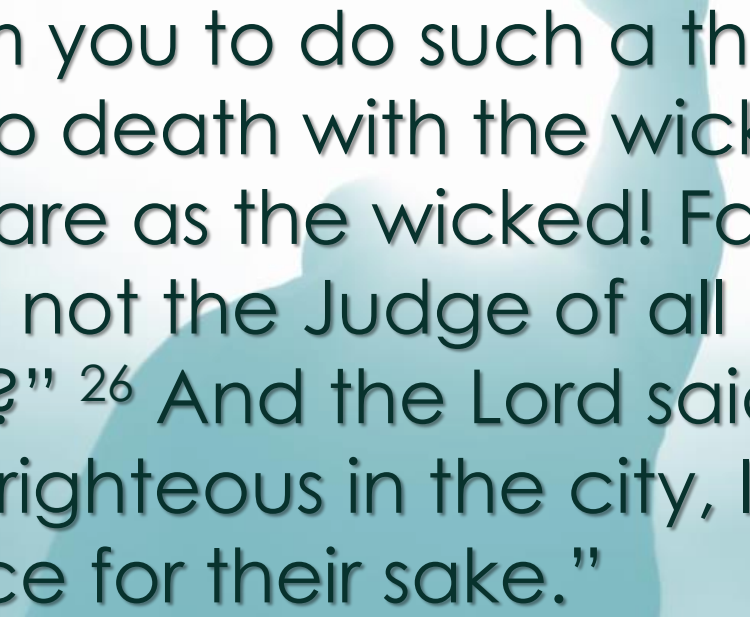
Genesis 18:22-26

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. ²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it?”



Genesis 18:22-26

²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶ And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."



Luke 6:27-28, 36

²⁷ “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

³⁶ Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

James 2:13

¹³ For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

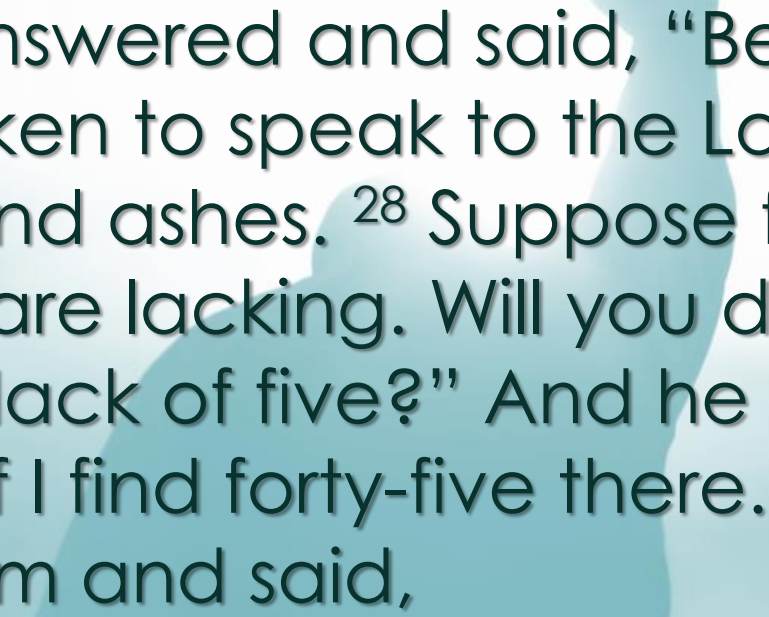


Maintain the Hope of Justice

A silhouette of a person is shown from the back, with their right arm raised and hand open, palm facing forward. The person is positioned against a very bright, hazy background that suggests a sunrise or sunset. The overall color palette is a soft, light blue-green.

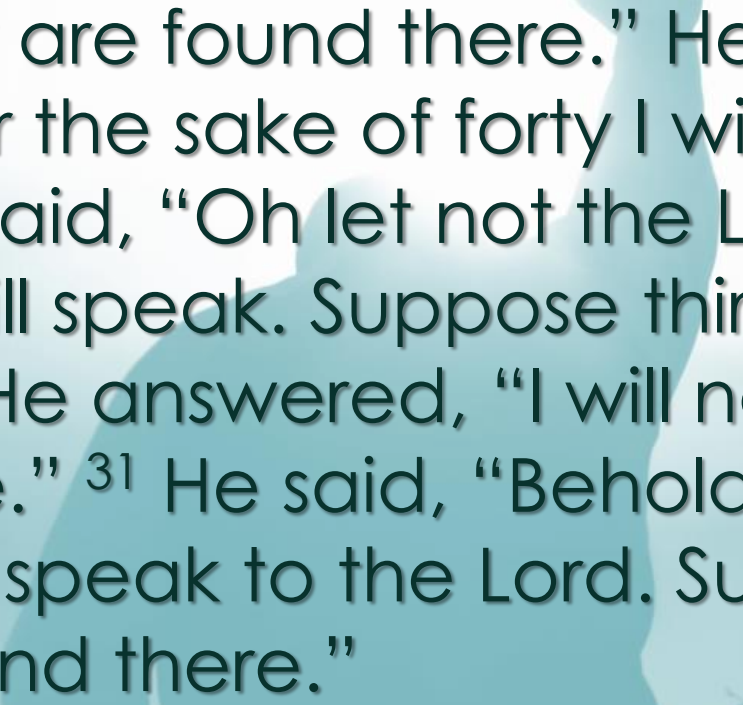
Genesis 18:27-33

²⁷ Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” ²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said,



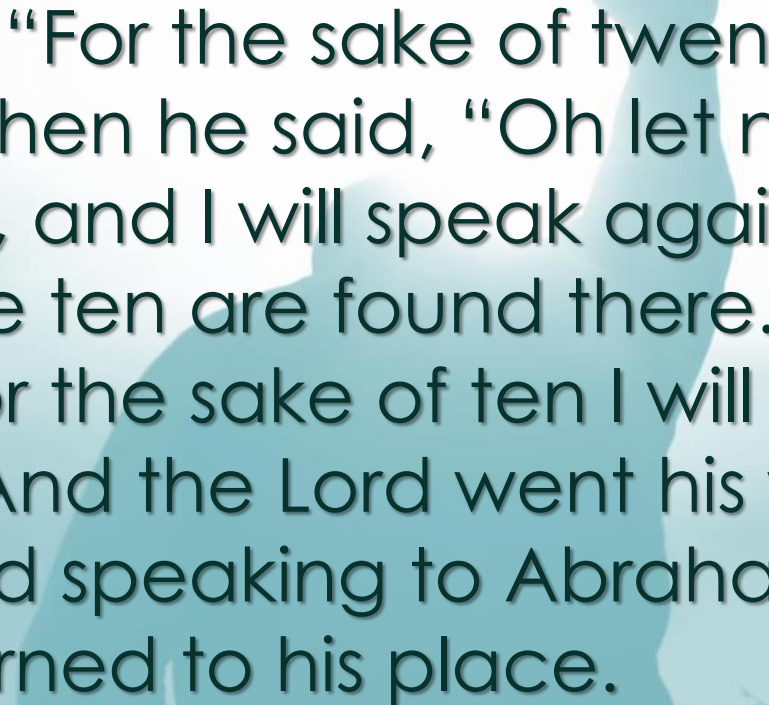
Genesis 18:27-33

“Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰ Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” ³¹ He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.”



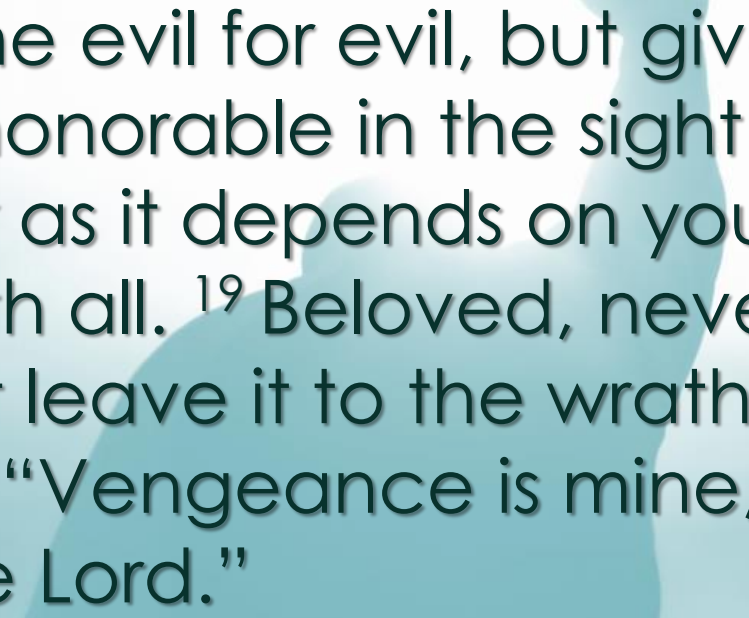
Genesis 18:27-33

He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³² Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³ And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.



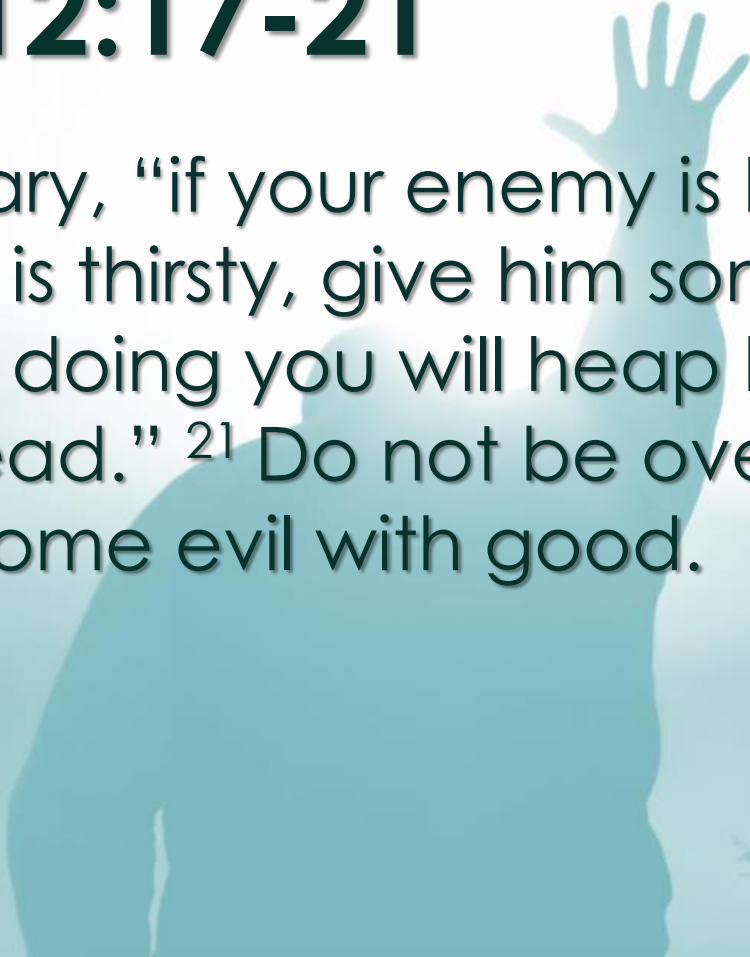
Romans 12:17-21

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”



Romans 12:17-21

²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.





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