

# “Where the rubber meets the road - The Road gets rougher”

## Romans 12:9-21

[Quote marks and underlined signifies the literal translation]

Verse 9: “genuine” is translated from the Greek phrase “without hypocrisy”  
In order to love without hypocrisy we need to “HATE evil” AND “HOLD FAST” or  
cling to what is good (I Peter 3:11). This requires daily prayer, reading Scripture &  
being part of the local body of Christ. [Cling translated from Greek is  
KALLAO=collagen, the “glue” that holds the human body together]

Verse 10: “Love” here is agape or God’s love as brothers & sisters (we will be  
spending eternity together!) How do we show someone “honor”? (Phil. 2:1-4)  
[Praising, encouragement, remembering important life dates such as  
birthdays/anniversaries/etc.]

Verse 11:     Don’t: be lazy or lacking in “diligence”  
                  Do: be “boiling” in the Spirit in order to serve as a “slave” [NASB] of  
                  Jesus Christ! (James 1:1)

Verse 12: HOW TO BEHAVE AS A SLAVE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST...

- A. Rejoice in hope (Heb. 6:19-20)
- B. Patient or steadfast in trials (James 1:2-4)
- C. Be “faithful” in prayer (Col 4:2) for wisdom, guidance & strength.

Verse 13:     “Share in” the needs of the Saints. (James 1:27)  
                  “Pursue friendliness with strangers” (saved & unsaved) and thereby  
                  aid the body of Christ, help ministries of the Cross and possibly  
                  bring the lost to salvation.

Verse 14: Bless those who persecute you. (Luke 23:34 and Acts 7:59-60)

Verse 15: Empathize with other’s joys and sorrows...listening, understanding and  
showing you care fulfills the next verse.

Verse 16:     “Have the same attitude toward one another”. (I Peter 3:8)  
                  “Do not think highly of yourself” and be willing to associate with  
                  people of low position. (James 1:9-10)

Verse 17: This is a reiteration of v. 14 with the addition of the admonishment to do what is right/beautiful in the sight of all people. (I Thes. 5:22 KJV)

Verse 18: If possible (because it may not be), as much as it depends on your behavior, live at peace with all people. (Ecc. 3:1-8)

Verse 19: Never avenge yourself, but “leave room for” God’s wrath, because He said that’s His purview. (Deut. 32:35) [Scripture quoting a Scripture written 1,457 years earlier!]

Verse 20: By responding to an enemy’s evil with Holy Spirit empowered Christian love, we will heap burning coals on his head. What does this mean? In the context here I believe it refers to an Egyptian ritual where a person, realizing he has wronged another, brings a dish of burning coals on his head to the one he has wronged, thereby signifying he is repentant and desires reconciliation. (Proverbs 25:21-22) (this was written to Jews who had lived in Egypt and would have understood this ritual). You might thus cause an enemy to repent and be born again. (James 5:20) [Read the story of Paul, Silas & the Philippian jailor...Acts 16:25-30]

Verse 21: (Read verse)-Tell the story of David sparing Saul’s life twice. (I Sam. 24:3-6 and 26:7-9)