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Daily Devotional - Friday, September 11, 2020 - Never Take Your Own Revenge

SEPTEMBER 11TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Romans 12:14-21

Why do we have such a hard time extending forgiveness to others? Perhaps one reason is that it doesn't seem right. Justice demands that there be repayment or punishment for wrongdoing. However, we are not the ones who have the authority to retaliate. To do so amounts to usurping God's role, which is just as sinful as what was done to us.

This ungodly attitude is evident in the hearts of many—sadly, including Christians. So let's uncover the dark truth behind it. This destructive landmine of unforgiveness ...

Demonstrates an unwillingness to extend to others the forgiveness the Lord has graciously extended to us (Eph. 4:32).

Plants a root of bitterness in our heart, which poisons us, causes trouble, and defiles others (Heb. 12:15).

Hinders God's sanctifying process in our life, because we grieve the Spirit by holding onto anger, resentment, or vengeance (Eph. 4:30-31).

Instead of demanding justice now, Paul encourages us to bless and do good to those who persecute us. We can never overcome evil with sinful attitudes and actions, but only with good. For now, we must trust God and leave vengeance to Him.

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