

## LOVE....PASS IT ON!

As we read and see today, violence is everywhere. From the streets to the world, the very hatred for fellow man is conquering us daily.

From sea to shining sea, we are seeing the very works of the devil being played out. Let's face it...the devil is on vacation right now. He is in a tropical paradise because WE are doing his work.

So you may be asking, where do I turn for help? The best place is God's word. His word never fails and is always true.

**“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgement on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended.” –Romans 13:1-3**

The Bible says that we are not to take punishment into our own hands but to defer vengeance to God through legitimately established governments.

**Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” –Romans 12:17-21**

We are not to overcome evil through personal retaliation but overcome evil by doing good. **“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.” –Leviticus 19:18**

**#1 Let's show the world in these desperate days what the love of God is like.**

**#2 Let's be much in prayer for the safety of those who are demonstrating love to others by their brave actions.**

**#3 Let's speak up for understanding, tolerance, justice and forgiveness.**

**#4 Let's be a voice for calm in an atmosphere of hatred and retaliation.**

**#5 Let's be men and women of prayer, both for those who victimized and those who were their victims.**

+Pastor Ben