

Sunday, August 17, 2025

The King of Peace

Mark 11:1-25

- At this point in time in our study, we are now in the final week of the life of Jesus.
 - As we pick up in Mark chapter 11, we know from context that this is the 10th day of the Month of Nisan in the Jewish calendar
 - And this day has such significance because this was the day that Israelites crossed over the Jordan River to enter the promised land
 - And according to the Law in Exodus chapter 12, God instructed that this would be the first day of the Passover Celebration
 - And on the 10th of Nisan, the Jewish families would select their passover lamb, and they would keep it safe for 4 days, until they would present the lamb to be sacrificed on the 14th day of Nisan in the temple, and then

they would use the meat of that lamb for their passover meal.

- This was the largest and most significant holiday for all of the Jewish people as they looked back on how the Lord delivered them from Egypt, after the first Passover, and looked forward to the coming Messiah that would provide their ultimate deliverance
- And it is no coincidence that it is on this day, that Jesus comes into Jerusalem, presenting Himself as the Sacrificial Lamb that the Father has chosen for the entire family of God, and He would be kept safe for 4 days until He would be sacrificed on the cross on the 14th day of Nisan.
- This is the first time that Jesus publicly presents Himself, as the Messiah
 - All throughout this Gospel, so many times when He would heal someone or when His disciple would declare that He indeed was the Messiah, the Son of God, who has come

into the world...Jesus would tell them to keep quiet about it

- Until now, when Jesus rides into Jerusalem, on what is now famously referred to as Palm Sunday
- We pick up in Mark chapter 11, beginning in verse 1:
- ***“Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of His disciples and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let***

them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”
-Mark 11:1-10 (ESV)

- That word Hosanna means, “Save, I pray!” or “Lord, save us now!:
- I love how in the Gospel of Luke when this scene is described, the Pharisees try and tell Jesus to stop the people from praising Him like this! They think it’s blasphemy!
- But Jesus looks at them and says, “If they stopped, the very rocks would cry out in praise themselves!”

- Jesus says, “No, I AM He who comes in the Name of the Lord, I AM the coming Kingdom of our father David, I AM He who has come to save and to save now.”
- Now, this being referred to as The Triumphal Entry, would have raised eyebrows from those with a Roman background
- Because Triumphal Entries were more of a Roman practice, and they would be reserved for Kings or Great Military Leaders
 - And in order to be eligible for a Triumphal Entry, one would have had to be successful in a great battle, and they would have had to kill 5,000 enemies or more
 - And if they had done that, they would be paraded into Rome on a great stallion, in which no one else had ever ridden and they would be praised by the people
- Now, Jesus is having His own Triumphal Entry, but He is putting His own twist on it
 - And the people are recognizing this as such because they thrown their garments down before Him, which is their own way of making a sort of Red Carpet entrance for Him
 - This is a call back to 2 Kings 9 whenever Jehu is named King over Israel it says: ***“Then in haste every man of them took his garment and put it under him on the bare steps, and they blew the trumpet and proclaimed, “Jehu is king.” - 2 Kings 9:13 (ESV)***
 - So this is indeed a King’s entrance for Jesus, however He is not riding in on a great white Stallion as a conqueror would
 - Instead He rides in on a colt, or more accurately a young donkey
 - Matthew’s account gives us the detail that the Mamma donkey was brought along with the colt, which would make sense to be a calming presence to the young donkey that had never been ridden

- But in doing so, Jesus is fulfilling the prophecy from Zechariah 9 that says, ***“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”***

-Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

- Now, why a donkey??
 - Well as the Great White Stallion was symbolic of a great military conquest in time of war
 - The donkey symbolized a time of peace
 - There were times, very seldom, but there were times whenever a Roman official would enter into a region that they oversaw on a more humble animal like a donkey or a mule in order to show that they were not coming to inflict war or pain but that they came in peace

- Furthermore, whenever David was handing the Kingdom over to Solomon, David instructs that Solomon show up to his inauguration, riding on a mule in order to signify this was a peaceful transition of power, not a military take over

- In the same way, Jesus is about to introduce a transition of power, but it's not going to be the military takeover that most of the Jews were expecting

- He is riding in as King...but this show us that

- JESUS IS THE KING OF PEACE

- He's the King that brings Peace to our lives by Giving Us Peace with God!
- The angels told the shepherds this whenever the announced His birth
 - They said, “Glory to God in the Highest! PEACE on earth, and Goodwill to those with whom He is pleased.”
- Now Jesus was waging His own war that could not be seen by the human eye. He was waging

war against death, against the sin that had brought chaos into the world

- He was making the enemies of hell His footstool and stripping satan of his power
- He was going to bring peace, but He was going to do so in a way that no form of human warfare could ever accomplish
- In John, during the last supper, Jesus tells His disciples, ***“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.” -John 14:27 (ESV)***
- You see, the Peace that Jesus provides can never be replicated by anything in this world.
 - That’s why Paul describes it as the peace that surpasses all understanding.
- This word “Peace” that Jesus uses, has a rather lengthy definition. In the original language it means: **Peace (eirēnē): “the tranquil state of a soul assured of its**

salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is”

- This is a Peace that only the Lord can provide you by His Holy Spirit in times where it makes no sense to have any peace.
 - Your earthly lot can be falling down around you, but you are still content because the Peace of God is in your life
 - Life can be crazy, chaotic, and confusing, but yet you do not fear because the King of Peace is Enthroned on your heart
 - Even when the world seems to be falling apart around us, we are cool, calm, and collected because we are assured of our salvation...
- I saw a lady experience this kind of peace....
 - Last week I shared an experience of our Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic
 - And whenever Emma’s group was out on their grocery delivery, they came across a

woman in one of the houses, she didn't even live there, but they could tell that she had been inconsolable

- Come to find out, she had just gotten a message that her 13 yr old son had just been killed.
- Pastor Josué was with that group and he talked with her and prayed with her and invited her to the revival were were holding the following night
- Now, at the revival, after I had gotten done preaching, I went out to the courtyard where the kids were playing and doing crafts so I could relieve Emma so she could experience some of the worship service
- And she handed me this little girl, couldn't be more than a year or two old. And this little girl looked at me suspiciously at first, but then she gave me a smile, put her head on my shoulder and went to sleep.

- Even with all of the kids running around, generators blaring...It was chaotic out there, yet she was so peaceful

- Come to find out, that was the daughter of the lady who's oldest son had been killed.
- After the service I felt like I had to speak with her, so I got a translator and I told her about holding her little girl. And I told her that I believed that her daughter was experiencing peace in that moment
- And I believed that the Lord could bring her into a season of peace. It doesn't make any sense at this time in her life, but it's a peace that surpasses understanding that only God can bring.
- Even in the midst of what she was going through, God could give her peace if she were to trust in Him, and surround herself with people of peace in places of peace just like where we were in that church
- Now, I'm not going to lie...I felt like an idiot talking to a lady who just lost her son about

peace...I had no idea how she was going to respond

- But then she told the translator that she had felt completely empty, but after talking with us, she now felt completely full

- And the translator led her to the Lord right there on the spot

- Then I got a message from Pastor Josuè the other day...and he had received **THIS PICTURE**

- And the message read, “They say that she has been transformed, she’s been at every service, she’s been bringing friends with her, the Lord has truly done a miracle in her life”

- That is what the King of Peace can do for us! Only He can bring you peace in the midst of the darkest most difficult circumstances of your life, by assuring your soul of salvation
 - By assuring us that this world is not our home, this life is but a vapor, and we can echo those words of Paul who says, “I

consider the sufferings of this present time
NOT WORTH COMPARING to the Glory that will be revealed to us.”

- That Glory, that Peace, is what Jesus was riding into Jerusalem to provide for us
- His Triumphal Entry was leading Him to the Cross where He would pay the price to pave the way for our peace
 - So that by believing in Him, we will no longer be enemies of God but friends of God
 - That’s why Paul says in Romans 5,
“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” -Romans 5:1 (ESV)
- But in order to make that peace possible, the King of Peace was first going to have to shake some things up.
- After He rode into town on that donkey, verse 11 says, **“And He entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when He had looked around at everything, as it was**

already late, He went out to Bethany with the twelve.” -Mark 11:11 (ESV)

- You can get the sense that when He looked around that Temple, He didn't like what He saw...He wanted to do something about it, but it was late, He was tired...so He'll be back

- “On the following day, when they came from Bethany, He was hungry. And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if He could find anything on it. When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. And He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And His disciples heard it.” -Mark 11:12-14 (ESV)

- Now this is an odd passage. Because Mark tells us that it was not the season for figs. So why would Jesus expect to find figs on it, and get mad and curse it, when it wasn't even in season??

- Well Mark says that this fig tree was in leaf, so it had the appearance of being in bloom.
 - If in bloom, it should have figs on it.
 - But this tree's appearance did not match it's production
 - The the tree was not producing what it gave the appearance of what it was supposed to be producing
 - And it makes sense why Mark includes this story, when we take it into the context of the next portion of scripture.
- “And they came to Jerusalem. And He entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And He would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. And He was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the***

nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.” And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy Him, for they feared Him, because all the crowd was astonished at His teaching. And when evening came they went out of the city.” -Mark 11:15-19 (ESV)

- Jesus had a big problem with the Temple not producing what it appeared to be producing.
- Now the Temple would have appeared to be in full bloom
- Keep in mind this is the beginning of the Passover Festivities
 - Jews from all over the world would come to celebrate. It was season of remembrance of when God delivered the Israelites out of Egypt
 - Not just full blooded Jews would celebrate this. There were people who were part-Jewish from intermarriages throughout the

generations, there were people who simply just believed that God was the only God and wanted to worship Him even though they were not Jewish at all.

- You had all kinds of people
- This was a huge event that happened every year.
- At this time there was normally a population of about 400,000 that lived within Jerusalem...but during Passover, some scholars believe there was about 2.5 million people in town for the celebration
 - Over 255,000 sacrifices would be made
- So when the time came close, they would start setting up vendors. It made sense, a bunch of people were coming into town for this event and there was a ton of money to be made. This was a huge tourist attraction. So the priests allowed vendors to set up in the temple courts.

- Now this was the most profitable time of the year for the Temple because people had to buy special sacrificial animals to participate in the Passover festivities
 - So they knew they could charge whatever they wanted
 - And they would only let them use a certain currency to buy the animals with, so they would have to do a currency exchange before they could purchase anything, and as you could imagine all of the sudden the exchange rate would skyrocket during Passover time
- Some people would try to be smart and bring their own animal from home, but it had to be inspected by the priest before it could be used in the sacrificial system, and 99.9% of the time the priest would just so happen to find a flaw with the animal. Rejected it, and made them have to buy a new one anyway.
 - The particular place that they would have all of these vendors set up in was the court of

the gentiles. This is where the people who were not fully Jewish would come to worship

- However their place of worship was chaotic and busy, so there's not much actual worship that would happen there
- I guess they were thinking that it didn't matter as much because the gentiles weren't as important as the Jews were.
- But Jesus had a different perspective
- He says, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'?"
- God has always been about bringing all people to Himself
 - Worship can be defined as "The act of seeking God"
 - He wants all people to be able to seek Him and worship Him
 - And Jesus brings peace to our lives by giving us peace with God and:

- THE KING OF PEACE: BRINGS PEACE TO OUR WORSHIP

- The Temple, where people were supposed to be able to seek God in the most peaceful way, had become a chaotic circus
 - Not only are people being extorted, others are being blocked from being able to freely worship God for themselves
 - And in order to bring peace to our worship, Jesus is going to have to drive some things out of our lives that are getting in the way of our worship.
 - Jesus is passionate about people being able to worship and seek God.
 - Jesus in John 4 even says that God is SEEKING worshippers that will worship in Spirit and Truth
 - The fact that God is seeking those that will seek Him is an astounding thought!
- He said through the prophet Jeremiah that “You will seek Me and find Me, when you seek Me with all your heart.”
 - So it really TICKS JESUS OFF in the Temple that day, whenever He shows up and sees that people are being blocked from being able to seek Him and freely worship, because of these vendors and corrupt leaders were getting in the way
 - There was no peace in the worship setting... His House lost focus, it was time to overturn things
 - It’s interesting, because this was actually the 2nd time that Jesus had overturned tables in the Temple
 - He had done so three years prior whenever He was first starting His public ministry.
 - It’s interesting because it comes right on the heels of Jesus at the wedding of Cana where

He did His first recorded miracle of turning water into wine

- John said He manifested His glory by Keeping the party going, by providing the best wine, covering up a shameful situation, and bringing Joy
- And He let the groom take all the credit!
- Then goes from staying behind the scenes, to causing a scene
- He goes from filling tables, to flipping tables
 - *I heard one pastor say that in this one chapter in John, we see Jesus go from the Greatest Party Maker to the Greatest Party Pooper*
- But I for one, love that we get to see this side of Jesus. Because this is the Jesus that we don't like to think about a lot
 - *We like wedding Jesus, we like party Jesus, we like the Jesus that fills our table, provides*

what we need when we're lacking...we like the Jesus that brings Peace and Joy

- *We want wedding Jesus, we don't want Temple Jesus*
- But it's actually the same Jesus, accomplishing the same things, in two different ways
- You Jesus provided the wine at the wedding, He brought Joy, He covered Shame, He replaced their purification system to make a clearer and easier, more peaceful path to seek Him
 - In the same way, He overturned the tables and drove out the distractions in order to make a clearer and easier, more peaceful path to seek Him
- Same Jesus, accomplishing the same thing
 - Only difference was one was comfortable and one wasn't

- IF JESUS HAS THE ABILITY TO FILL OUR TABLES, HE ALSO HAS THE AUTHORITY TO OVERTURN OUR TABLES
- We like it whenever He provides, and gives us exactly what we're praying for...but there are times whenever we don't know what's best for ourselves and sometimes God will turn our tables over, He'll change our plans, He'll tear everything down so that we can be built back up the right way
- There are things that need to be driven out of our lives and out of our churches
- Like here in the temple there were things that were distracting people from being able to freely seek God
 - And how many times do we have something in our lives that distract us from seeking God?
 - That rob our worship of Peace?!
- When that happens, He might let things blow up in our face so that we can get back on track and focused the way we need to be
- Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 3, ***“Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.” -1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (ESV)***
- So anyone who has put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, becomes His Temple
- That's why we have the expression, “Asking Jesus into your heart,” because whenever we come to faith, it comes with a time of repentance and asking Him to cast out all of the distractions that have kept us from Him and we become a dwelling place of His Holy Spirit
- And even after we come to faith, there can still be things that this life and the enemy try to put

in our path to try to keep us from going deeper into this relationship with Him

- It might seem a bit harsh but sometimes there will be people and negative influences that God needs to drive out of our lives because they are distractions from His work in our lives
 - Sometimes there will be job opportunities or various circumstances that God needs to drive us out of because He knows it will not lead us down the path that we need to go, or help us grow the way He wants us to
 - Sometimes He needs to knock us down a peg, because we are getting in the way of ourselves freely and peacefully worshipping God!
- Jesus furthers this point whenever they go back and see what happened to the fig tree that Jesus cursed:

- ***“As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. And Peter remembered and said to him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree that You cursed has withered.” And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” -Mark 11:20-24 (ESV)***
- Now, first let’s address what this does not mean. This does not mean that you can just ask God for whatever you want as a way of “manifesting” it to be
 - This “manifesting” and name it and claim it theology....is not what Jesus was talking

about. Because that's not about having faith in God.

- Those types of theologies and thought processes aren't about God they're about you
- And we, ourselves will always be our greatest obstacle to the Peace of our worship and our faith.
- But what Jesus is saying here is similar to John chapter 14, Whenever Jesus said, ***“And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.” -John 14:13-14 (NKJV)***
- Now, that phrase, “In My Name,” isn't just some sort of magic pixie dust we put at the end of our prayers in order to get what we want
- That phrase literally means, “According to,” or “For the Sake of”
 - So Jesus says, *“Whatever you ask According to My Name,”* or *“Whatever you ask, For the*

Sake of Furthering My Kingdom”...SO THAT the Father and Son will be GLORIFIED...I will do it

- But how often are our asks more about Him, than they are us?
- We are the greatest mountain that needs to be moved out of the way to we can live in true faith
- You see, Jesus more than likely uses this language of moving mountains, not just because they were in eye sight of the Mt. of Olives, but because there was a phrase used among Jewish Tradition.
 - It was “Rooter Up of Mountains.”
 - This was a phrase reserved for a Jewish Rabbi, Teacher, or Leader that was skilled in solving the most difficult of life's riddles or someone who was able to teach clearly, some of the most difficult truths, in a way that everyone could understand

- When a teacher was known to have extraordinary wisdom to be able to decipher between complex truths, they were referred to as someone who can “Uproot Mountains,”
- It was said of one Rabbi in the Talmud, *“When one sees Rabbi Meir studying Torah in the study hall, it is as though he is uprooting the highest of mountains and grinding them into each other.”* -Babylonian Talmud, tractate Sanhedrin 24a.
- So Jesus is telling His disciples, “You can have the greatest spiritual insight known to mankind, you can be just as wise and understanding as any rabbi or teacher, you can have the deepest wisdom imaginable to navigate all of life’s chaotic, and crazy, and unexplainable twists and turns...if you just have FAITH IN GOD
- It’s similar to what James would say in his epistle:
- ***“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.”*** -James 1:5-8 (NIV)
- We don’t need more money, more position, more influence, or more recognition to be able to accomplish something great in this life
 - What we need is more wisdom, that the Lord can only provide, that will help navigate whatever mountainous obstacles that this life may throw in our way
 - In order to bring peace and clarity to our life of worship
- And this should makes us seriously pause and reflect on ourselves and if there is anything that we ever do that would get in the way of

someone else from being able to seek God peacefully??

- *So many people hop to different churches, because they had lost the ability to peacefully worship where they were*
 - *The way that some people talk to each other, treat each other, act around others whenever they're not at church...those who constantly just look for something wrong rather than encouraging what is good!*
 - *And you could say, "Well, it's not about us, it's about Jesus"...and you're exactly right! And Jesus wants us to be at peace with each other so that we can more peacefully worship!*
- That's why in the last verse of our passage today Jesus says: ***"And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."*** -Mark 11:25 (ESV)

- Last point for today:

- THE KING OF PEACE: GIVES US PEACE WITH EACH OTHER

- Now, if this isn't one of the greatest mountainous obstacles of our lives
 - Other people
 - There are people who have hurt us, wronged us, torn us down, embarrassed us in public, sent us passive aggressive emails, treated us with NO respect
 - And we don't like those people!!
 - There are those who have been so deeply and traumatically hurt by someone else that it's even hard to put into words!
- I don't know about you, but have you ever been so bitter, and frustrated and hurt that it just consumes your thoughts...you're thinking about it when you wake up, you're thinking about it in the shower, you're thinking about it while

cutting the grass, you're thinking about it while you're trying to sleep?

- You'll even catch yourself thinking about it during prayer and worship...some of you have tuned me out today because your mind is consumed with it
- I have been there! More times than you know.
- Now, Jesus emphasizes forgiveness and reconciliation quite a bit.
 - In Matthew He says if you are offering a gift at the altar and you remember that someone has something against you, go and be reconciled with that person, then come back and offer your gift
- However in this passage in Mark...He doesn't say anything about reconciliation...He just says forgive.
- That word that Jesus uses means in this context: **Forgive (aphiēmi): to let go, give up a debt by not demanding it**

- This forgiveness really has nothing to do with the other person, it's about you and your heart
 - My personal favorite definition of forgiveness is this: **Forgiveness is the Act of Releasing Bitterness from the Heart**
- And you, know that you can do that from a distance right? Jesus says that you can!
 - There are people who have hurt you that you never need to see again! But they don't have to hold your heart hostage
 - That's what bitterness does, it holds our hearts hostage and robs us of the peace that Jesus wants us to have in our lives and in our worship...and mostly we are held hostage by those who aren't giving us a second thought.
 - And that's what drives us crazy the most! We want them to know! To think about us! To answer for what they have done!
- But Jesus says, "If you are standing, praying and worshipping and this bitterness starts to

resurface....let it go, don't expect a single thing from those people, just give it over to God so the King can bring peace to your heart and soul once again."

- Now, this is easier said than done. Trust, me. I know!

- *A while back I was struggling with some deep church hurt. I was angry, frustrated, bitter. And one day as I was praying, it was consuming my mind again, and I said, "Alright Lord! I'm sick of this! I'm going to deal with this! Who do I need to talk to, what conversations do I need to have, so this can be dealt with?!"*

- *And in that moment I felt as if the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart saying, "What, you don't think I can take this from you?"*

- And I had to repent. Because why did I want to have conversations and talk with people?....not to reconcile! I wanted them to know how hurt I was and why! I wanted to rub their noses in it, in Jesus' Name!!

- But that's not the heart of Jesus....and the forgiveness, the letting go, the giving over to Him, it wasn't about my relationship with those people...it was about my relationship with God

- Paul says, ***"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."***
-Ephesians 4:31-32 (ESV)

- Jesus also says, whoever has been forgiven much loves much

- And the more that we are consumed with gratitude for how Jesus has forgiven us....we will be much more apt to forgive others. Whether that forgiveness be close or from a distance

- Our relationship with others will always be a direct reflection of our relationship with God

- The other week we ended the sermon by reading a passage from Romans 12 in which Paul is detailing how the Christian life is supposed to be lived and what our lives are supposed to look like.
- And we ended with verse 18 that says, ***“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” -Romans 12:18 (ESV)***
 - You can only control yourself and how you respond. So as much as it depends on you, live peaceably.
 - And you may think, “I’ve tried that! I’ve done that! But they’re not peaceable with me!”
 - Which is why Paul goes on to say:
- ***“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.” To 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.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” -Romans 12:19-21 (ESV)

- I love how Paul handles this, because nothing will drive someone who intentionally hurts you, crazier than when it doesn’t bother you.
 - When you do good for them, it will be their living hell, Paul says!
- But whenever we allow the King of Peace to take the throne of our hearts: Bitterness has no place, Rivalry has no room, these mountainous obstacles are nothing but removable objects!