

PAYBACK



“Let love be without hypocrisy...” vs. 9

“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love...” vs. 10

“God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent...” Num. 23:19

“And My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray, and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.” 12 Chron. 7:14

1. NEVER!

A. Payback evil.

“Never pay back evil for evil to anyone...” vs. 17



B. Take punishment into your own hands.

“Never take your own revenge...” vs. 19

“David replied to Abigail, ‘Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands.’ 1 Sam. 25:32-33 (NLT)

C. Be conquered by evil.

“Do not be overcome by evil...”



2. ALWAYS!

A. Do what is right.

**“...Respect what is right in the sight of all men.”
vs. 17b**



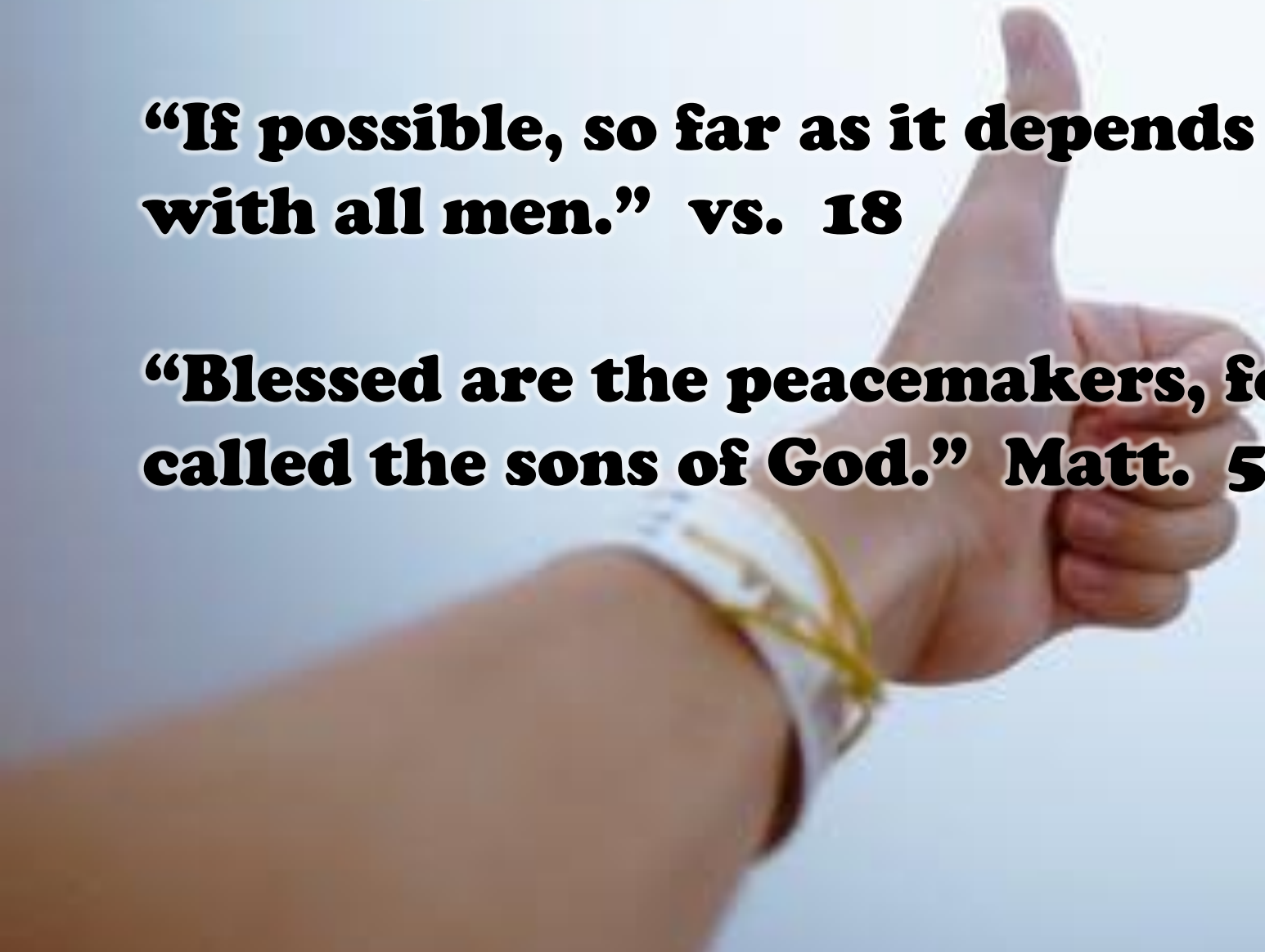
**“When a man’s ways are pleasing to the Lord,
He makes even his enemies to be at peace
with him.” Prov. 16:7**

**“Let your light shine before men in such a way that
they may see your good works, and glorify your
Father who is in heaven.” Matt. 5:16**

B. Be a peacemaker.

“If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.” vs. 18

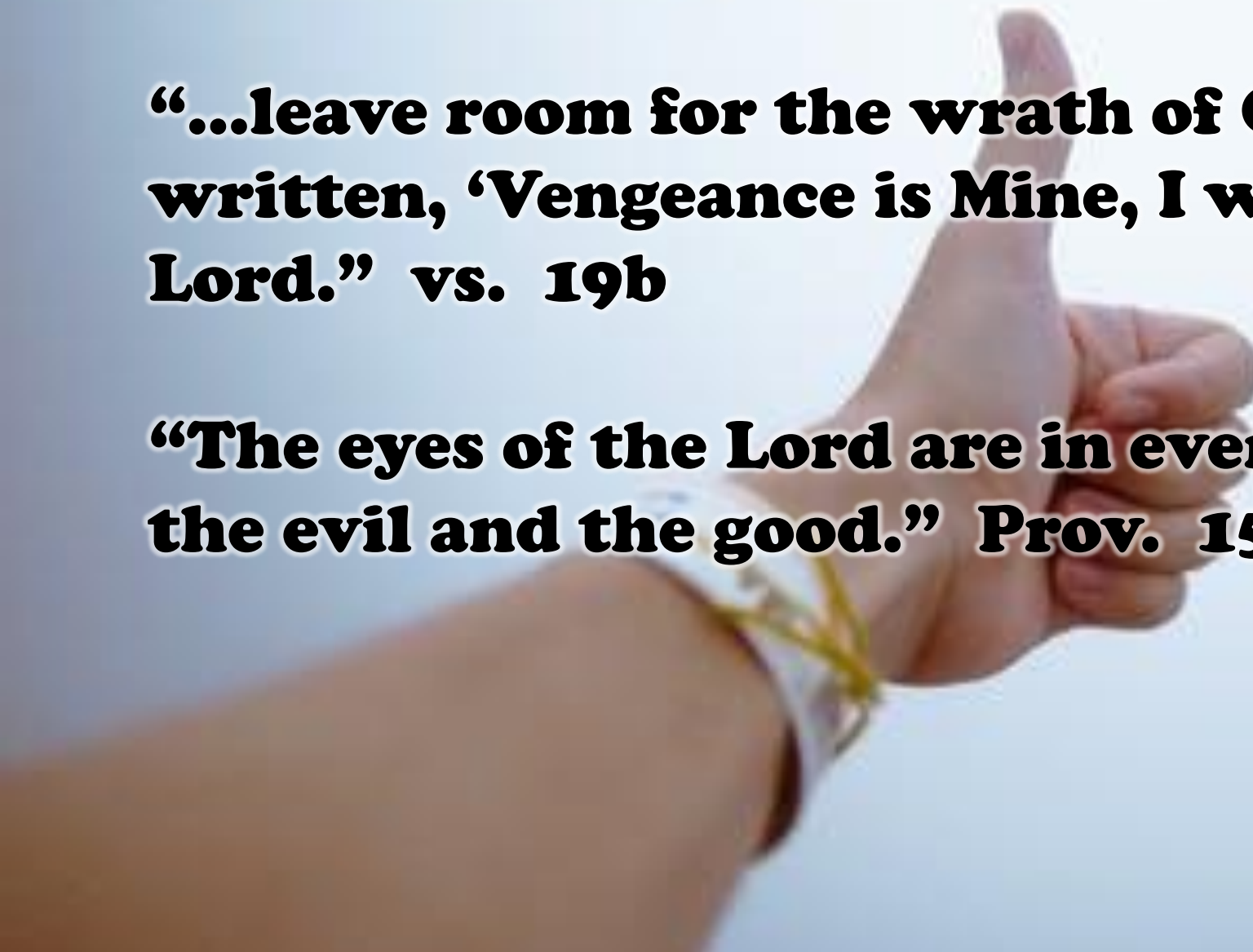
“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.” Matt. 5:9



C. Trust the Lord to bring justice.

“...leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” vs. 19b

“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good.” Prov. 15:3



D. Serve the one who's done you wrong.

“But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head.” vs. 20

**“But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.”
Luke 6:27**

E. Conquer evil.

“...but overcome evil with good.” vs. 21b



APPLICATION FOR ME:

Be reminded of God's mercy for you.

“For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.” Rom. 5:10

Forgive as you've been forgiven.

“And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” Eph. 4:32

Trust that the Lord will bring righteousness at the right time.

“And they cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt Thou refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?’”

Rev. 6:10

Serve those who have wounded you.

“...the son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Matt. 20:28

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