

"Marks of the Believer's Birthright" (Part 2)

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1 Peter 3:9a

8 Finally, in everything be of one mind, sympathetic, brotherly love, tenderhearted, humble. **9** Not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but on the other hand, giving a blessing; for you have been called for this purpose: so that you might inherit a blessing. **10** For,

HE WHO WISHES TO LOVE LIFE AND SEE GOOD DAYS KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT. 11 AND LET HIM TURN AWAY FROM EVIL AND DO GOOD; LET HIM

SEEK PEACE AND PURSUE IT. 12 FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE UPON THE RIGHTEOUS AND HIS EARS [OPEN] TO THEIR PRAYER. BUT HIS FACE IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL.

 1 Peter 3:8-12, As translated from the Greek New Testament by T. Bartolucci.

Introduction:

Partakers of grace give evidence of grace. Graced people are gracious people.

I. Marks of the Believer's Birthright (vv. 8-12)

- A. The Mark of Love: How do I Act Toward Friends? (8)
- B. The Mark of Forgiveness: How do I Act Toward Foes? (9a)
 - 1. A Negative: Not returning evil for evil or insult for insult . . .

2. A Positive: but on the other hand, giving a blessing
3. Answering the question, "How can I do this?"
a God's great Mercy
b Humility and Empathy
c the sin of others
d on a heart of unconditional love
e for your adversaries
f the purpose of your calling

Conclusion: