

**JEREMIAH 33:3 "CALL TO ME" GROUP BIBLE STUDIES – LEARNER'S STUDY -  
LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

**LESSON #2 – A CHRISTIAN'S CALL FOR REVENGE**

**A CHRISTIAN'S CALL** – After watching planes fly into business buildings, this lesson asks, “can a Christian call upon God to give him revenge?”

**THE PRAYER** – Dear Lord Jesus, if there was anyone Who experienced unfairness and inequity it is You. Unfairly You were beaten, tried and crucified. Yet, even from the cross You asked the Father in heaven to forgive them in their ignorance. If that is what we are to do, dear Lord, You will have to teach us how. Grant us grace to do what is right. In Your Name. Amen.

**ILLUSTRATION** - Revenge is the common element in the following:

A newspaper ad in the *Business Farmer News*, of Scottsbluff, Nebraska: Under For Sale or Trade it says: Will trade one white wedding gown size 16--never worn. Will trade for 38 caliber revolver.

There's an old Chinese proverb which says, "If thine enemy wrongs thee, buy each of his children a drum."

**SATAN'S SUMMONS** – Not so long ago, a Gallup poll said 48% of Americans said they prefer forgiveness over revenge. Only 8% said they would try to get even. What is the percentage of those they would:

\_\_\_% discuss the problem      \_\_\_% overlook the offense      \_\_\_% do something nice for the other fellow  
\_\_\_% pray for the offender      \_\_\_% would keep resentment inside      \_\_\_% pray for comfort

**THOUGHT:** Have you never thought of ways to get even with someone who had wronged you? As followers of the forgiving Savior, we know that such thinking is not proper....but it's also not easy to give up the idea of revenge. Certainly that was true in Scripture. Look at these passages and answer:

**SCRIPTURE SEARCH 1 –**

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>ANSWER</b>
Judges 16:28	What did Samson pray for?	_____
Psalms 10:15	What does the Psalmist want?	_____
Psalms 31: 17-18	What is asked for here?	_____
Psalms 35: 7-8	What should God do here?	_____
Psalms 35:26	If you gloat, what should God do?	_____
Psalms 55:15	What should happen here?	_____
Psalms 69:27	How rough can our prayers be?	_____
Jeremiah 18:21	What does the prophet want?	_____
Galatians 1:8	What does Paul pray?	_____

**FIRST APPLICATION:** Of course, some will say, 'things were different in the Old Testament. Back then God's people could 'get away' with praying for bad things to happen to their enemies.' Because of Jesus, we are to do good to those who have wronged us. It's right to love your enemies and do good to those who persecute you. Is that what these NEW TESTAMENT TEXTS say happened:

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>WHAT WAS ASKED FOR:</b>
Acts 13: 10-11	_____
2 Timothy 4: 14	_____
Revelation 6: 9-10	_____

Which takes us to the point of the lesson. Is it all right for us to call to the Lord for revenge? Is it necessary for us to turn the other cheek no matter what anyone does to us? There seems to be a contradiction here. It doesn't seem fair. Perhaps we can find an answer in:

**JEREMIAH 33:3 "CALL TO ME" GROUP BIBLE STUDIES – LEARNER'S STUDY -  
LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

**CHRIST'S CALL - SCRIPTURE SEARCH 2 -**

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>WHAT IS THE EVIL DONE TO US</b>	<b>HOW ARE WE TO ANSWER</b>
Mt. 5:39 -41	We are struck on the right cheek	_____
	If they take our tunic	_____
	If they kidnap us one mile	_____
Mt. 5:43-44	If they persecute you	_____
Romans 12:14	If someone persecutes you	_____
Romans 12:17-21	If someone does evil	_____
1 Cor. 4:12 -13	When we are cursed	_____
	When we are persecuted	_____
	When we are slandered	_____
What is the result according to this text?		_____

**ILLUSTRATION & THOUGHT** - So, do we call to the Lord for revenge ... or for strength to endure? The answer is, "we do that which will advance the Lord's cause and bring a temporary defeat to wickedness." That may be in bold action, or in patient endurance. We do the deed which will glorify the Savior.

**THE WAY OF PRAYER** – Dear Lord Jesus. You were a Savior of action Who stood strong against evil and hypocrisy. You also went as an uncomplaining Lamb to die on the cross. May we do what is right, when it is right, so others may see, in our actions, Your great love. In Your Name. Amen.