COALS OF FIRE UPON THE HEAD!

Romans 12:20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

Firstly there is no revenge or vindictiveness involved in this action. This saying originates from Eastern culture in a village setting. One woman would have the flint and the responsibility of starting the village fires. She would rise first and start her fire and then a boy would carry the red-hot coals to the other houses of the village so that their fires could be started. He would carry the hot coals on a pottery tray on his head.

This was mostly an unpleasant task for the lad but it had its blessing especially on a cold morning! The above verse is an extension of the admonition ... *Bless them who curse you; pray for them that despitefully use you* (Luke 6:28).

If you heap coals of fire on his head you may warm him up some and cause a change of his heart and mind which will lead him to putting away his disagreeable ways . . . a manifestation of the carnal mind's thinking which is at emnity with God.

Check your motivation when adding load to a servasnt of God! §