E-10/29 B-11/1 A

The conjunction GA'R plus the present active participle from the verb:

POIE'W = "For in doing this"

- pres = Customary; what habitually occurs when a believer functions under the above modus operandi and applies the Honor Code to experience.
- act = The believer produces the action of the verb by
 "doing" the Honor Code.
- 1- The means by which burning coals of fire are piled up on your adversary's head is your action of feeding and offering drink to him.
- 2- This is grace orientation to life and doctrinal orientation to reality, not to mention unconditional love for your enemy. It reflects spiritual selfesteem, genuine humility and occupation with Christ.
- 3- Your grace action was motivated not from morality but from integrity. You did the right thing, you did the honorable thing.
- 4- This serves to strengthen your case before the Supreme Court of Heaven.
- 5- But in addition to all of this is the underlying principle which controls all the events of human history and that is the Plan of God.
- 6- We know that God's desire is for this person, if an unbeliever, to accept Jesus Christ as Savior. 2 Peter 3:
 - v 9 = The Lord . . . is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.
- 7- We also know that it is God's desire for the reversionistic believer to confess his sins and return to the spiritual life. Revelation 3:
 - v 20 = Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if
 anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I
 will come in to him, and will dine with him,
 and he with Me.

- 8- Therefore, your act of honor may serve to bring this person to a moment of objectivity whereby he might give the Gospel a hearing.
- 9- Or, this act of grace humility may serve to bring this person to an objective realization that he needs to rebound and return to Bible study.
- 10- By the same token, he may remain in his hostile attitude toward you although you have demonstrated grace, humility, integrity and honor by feeding him and offering him drink.
- 11- By means of this righteous act you enable the justice of God to continue its prosecution of the case.
- 12- But remember, in the Plan of God, grace always comes before judgment. Your antagonist must be allowed the option of recovery before final justice may be administered.
- 13- Thus by refusing to opt for personal vengeance, you give your enemy one last chance to recover before justice imposes its final punishment.
- 14- The main verb comes next: the future active indicative of:

SWREU'W = to pile up

- fut = Gnomic; a statement of fact that may be expected
 to occur under the conditions found in the
 context. If you feed and offer drink to your
 adversary then the results are that you will pile
 upon him coals of fire.
- ind = Declarative; a statement of Biblical fact. When
 you maintain your position of deference toward the
 justice of God then judgment will be imposed.

What is it that is produced by your honorable action? The plural direct object from:

>ANTHRAX = "hot coals," plus the genitive of PU^R = "fire." Then finally the prepositional phrase:

EPI' plus the accusative of KEPhALn' = "on his head"

CTL v 2D = For in doing this (providing food and drink) you will pile up burning coals of fire on his head.

The main verb is **SWREU'W** and refers to what happens when you treat your adversary in grace and with honor.

- 2- The piling up consists of several concepts:
 - 1- Your grace toward the one who has offended you impacts his conscience. The one toward whom he has been antagonistic is now treated in turn with thoughtfulness and compassion.
 - 2- This result in recognition of wrongdoing and stimulate a contrite mental attitude leading toward recovery.
 - 3- Or it will lock that person into negative and result in continued decline in the reversionistic spiral.
 - 4- God in either case continues with judgment. Judgment can be positive and show mercy or negative and execute punishment.
 - 5- Which way it goes is dependent upon the person's volitional response to your honorable actions.
- 3- Therefore your grace and honor serves as a potential catalyst toward resolving the issue before the Supreme Court of Heaven.
- 4- What your response results in doing is piling up burning coals of fire on his head.
- 5- In Biblical exegesis many words have a figurative meaning which is the case here. We are not to conclude that such actions result in literal coals of fire being piled up on the person's head.
- 6- There are several figurative uses of fire in Scripture:
 - 1- Divine power. Numb 11:1
 - 2- The Theophany of the Burning Bush. Ex 3:2
 - 3- The Theophany of the pillar of fire. Ex 13:21
 - 4- Divine protection of believers in the Angelic Conflict symbolized by the wall of fire. Zech 2:5
 - 5- Speaks of wickedness in Isaiah 9:18
 - 6- The destructive nature of gossip in James 3:6
 - 7- The judgment of Christ upon Cosmos Diabolicus in Luke 12:49