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Heeding A Biblical Command Editorial

by [Arkansas Business Editors](#)

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Have you ever noticed that those most in need of asking forgiveness are frequently the least likely to seek it? The converse is true: Those least in need of making apologies are often the ones with the most tender consciences.

Brent Bumpers told Arkansas Business last week that he still felt bad that Lance Inc., which in 2008 bought Bumpers' Brent & Sam's Inc., had only a year later moved the cookie-making company out of North Little Rock and back to Lance's North Carolina headquarters, leaving almost 100 workers jobless. "I can make amends for that someday," Bumpers said.

Of course, he doesn't have to, and even if he did, surely his decision [to launch another Arkansan-employing enterprise](#), Wicked Mix, is proof of both his sincerity and his restless entrepreneurial nature.

"So few people seem able to do or pull off what I did with Brent & Sam's Cookies, I almost felt obligated to do it because it's something that I have expertise at," Bumpers said.

And all this reminded us of a favorite Bible verse and of the last time we read it in a news story. It was in the June 29, 1995, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. Federal Judge George Howard Jr. had sentenced Webb Hubbell, former Little Rock mayor, former chief justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court and former Associate Attorney General, to 21 months in prison for tax evasion and mail fraud.

Judge Howard said at the sentencing that the Bible commands that "unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." We know our Bible much less well than did the late Judge Howard, but we think it means that those blessed by family and fortune have a commensurate duty to help those not as richly blessed. We are grateful that some still heed the commandment.