

# Living The Transformed Life

Rom. 12:1-8

# Introduction

- Lessons from Romans:
  - Great principles of justification by faith: power of the gospel, need of forgiveness, salvation by faith (obedient response to the saving message of the gospel).
  - The fruits of justification: Peace, access into the grace of God, joy – even in tribulations, hope, love of God in our hearts.
  - How we must respond to the mercies of God. (12-16)
    - “Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God...” (Rom. 12:1)

# Introduction

- “Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God...” (Rom. 12:1)
  - We are to bring to God ourselves – body (Rom. 6:12-13) and mind (v. 2; I Cor. 6:19). It is a spiritual service.
- To offer ourselves unto our Creator we must...
  - **Not be conformed** to this world → become like and copy the things it loves, its views and morals. But to conform to His image.
  - **Be transformed** by the renewing of our minds → A radical change brought on by the power of God’s word must take place in our thinking, resulting in changed lives that put off the works of the flesh and puts on the fruit of the spirit.

# Introduction

- The transformed life puts the will of God into practice – lives it.
  - In doing so comes to see, that His will is good, acceptable, and perfect.
- Lesson: Living the transformed life.
  - How can I live a transformed life?
  - What does it look like?
  - What are the attitudes and characteristics of a transformed life?

# Romans 12:3-8

- <sup>3</sup> For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.
- <sup>4</sup> For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
- <sup>5</sup> So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.
- <sup>6</sup> Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
- <sup>7</sup> Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
- <sup>8</sup> Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

# The Transformed Life → Humility Toward Self and Service

- Humility.
  - Not to think more highly of yourself than you ought to think. (v-3; cf. Col. 3:10)
    - The Gentile world/atheists. (Rom. 1:22)
    - The Pharisee. (Lk. 18:11-12)
    - Become as a little child in humility. (Matt. 18:1-4)
    - Esteem other better than self. (Phil. 2:3b-4)
  - Think soberly.
    - The objects of God's benevolent attention. (Ps. 8:4; 139:14)
    - All have sinned and need grace of God. (Rom. 3:23)
    - The gifts and abilities we have are from him. (v-3)

# The Transformed Life → Humility Toward Self and Service

- The analogy of the body. (vv. 4-5)
  - Has many members, but not all the same function.
  - Comparison found in I Cor. 12:12-17ff.
    - All are not the same; have different functions.
    - Each one is necessary.
    - Each one must function to the extent of its capabilities for the body to be what it should. (Complete and useful)
    - Each one must exercise (use) their abilities diligently and humbly for the good of the whole body.
  - The church is the spiritual body of Christ. (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; 5:23; I Cor. 12:13)

# The Transformed Life → Humility Toward Self and Service

- The church is the spiritual body of Christ. (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; 5:23; I Cor. 12:13)
  - Many members in one body.
  - Members who have different functions, gifts, abilities.
    - Each talent, gift is given by God.
    - Each one is vital to each other and the whole.
    - Each one is to be used – not buried.
    - Each one in to be used to its full potential.
    - Each one is to be used with humility.
    - Each one is to be used properly – to glorify God and edify the body.



# The Transformed Life → Humility Toward Self and Service

- Seven illustrative gifts:
  - Prophecy – inspired speech. (Eph. 2:20; 3:3-5; I Cor. 13:8)
  - Ministry – serving others; material/physical matters. (Acts 6:1-2; I Tim. 3:8; Mk. 10:45) → Use this gift.
  - Teaching – imparting information to instruct others in the way of truth. (Eph. 4:11; Acts 8:4) → Be diligent in teaching.
  - Exhortation – admonition, encouragement, comforting, correction. (Acts 14:22; Rom. 12:1; 15:30; 16:17) → “He must exhort” (NET)

# The Transformed Life → Humility Toward Self and Service

- Seven illustrative gifts:
  - Giving – shares; imparts one's substance. (Eph. 4:28; Acts 4:36-37; 5:1-11) → With pure motives; liberality.
  - Ruleth – has a position of leadership. (1 Thess. 5:12; 1 Tim. 5:17) → Exercise that gift with diligence and earnestness.
  - Shows Mercy – Deeds of kindness; helping out of genuine pity. (Acts 9:36,39; Lk. 10:37) → carry out that gift with cheerfulness, not grudgingly or reluctantly.
    - God's mercy to us. (Rom. 12:1; Titus 3:4-7)