

ROMANS SERIES TWENTY
THE ONLY LOGICAL THING TO DO
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Romans 12:1-2; Romans 6:3-4

Having discussed the principles of the gospel and some of the issues surrounding the gospel, Paul now begins to deal with the practice of the gospel.

Every epistle is arranged in three sections:

Beliefs: Romans 1-11

Behaviors: Romans 12-15

Relationships: Romans 16

We have finished the doctrinal (belief) section in our worship times through Romans. Over the next several chapters we will examine Paul's instructions regarding our behaviors as Christians. By the way, if our beliefs and behaviors do not lead to deeper relationships, then some thing is wrong with our beliefs and/or behaviors.

How we translate our Beliefs into proper Behaviors and Relationships hinges dramatically by how we handle the appeal of Romans 12:1-2.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:1-2).

After Considering God's Mercies To Us, Offering Up Our Bodies As Living Sacrifices Is The Only Logical Thing To Do.

Your spiritual act of worship:

Λογικη means logical or reasonable.

Λατρεία is a technical term for the offering of sacrifices. It may also mean action or duty.

Doing What Jesus Did Is The Only Reasonable Thing To Do.

What did Jesus do? He sacrificed His life for others. We are crucified with Christ.

Galatians 2:20

Romans 6:1-3

Matthew 16:24-26

Offering Our Bodies To Christ Is The Most Strategic Thing We Christians Can Do.

God needs bodies through which He may express Himself.

Bodies offered to Christ are the only ones that can translate the principles of Romans 1-11 into the practice of Romans 12-15.

We believers can live on one of three different levels: the sensual (σωμα), the soul (ψυχη) or mind (νοος), or the spirit (πνευμα). Sensual does not necessarily mean constant indulgence in the worst forms of carnality. It simply means that we are ruled by the senses. Soul (mind) manifestations may look spiritual but they really denote a life lived on the basis of the intellect, will and/or emotions. The spiritual life means that God has full control over us—and the key to this lies in the surrender of the body.

It is possible to appear to be spiritual when in fact our behaviors are directly empowered by our physical senses or our minds (intellect, will and/or emotions). This is a very subtle trap. When the Holy Spirit has complete control and influence over our bodies—not only our five senses, but also our souls—then we are best able to fully express the beauties of the Lord Jesus in every way.

Bodies Presented In Sacrifice To Jesus Will Be Living, Holy And Acceptable.

The Old Testament sacrifices were dead—we are presented alive. Why would we want to crawl off the altar? Because of Christ, the natural progression after the sacrifice is the resurrection (Romans 6:3-5).

Transformation occurs by refusing to be conformed to a society that does not know Christ and by renewing constantly the human mind.

“Don’t let the world squeeze you into its mold.”

“Conformed” is *συσχηματίζομαι* which refers to the actions of an individual who assumes an outward expression that does not come from within.

The “world” has its fads and fashions and dress and diets. These are not the issues! The issues revolve around the far more serious areas like morals, standards, ethics and religious beliefs.

“Transformed” is *μεταμορφοομαι* which literally means “metamorphosis.” This term occurs only three other places in the Bible. It is used to describe the transfiguration of Christ (Mark 17:2 and Mark 9:2). It is used to describe the glorious change in the face of a believer when he or she gazes steadfastly into the face of Jesus (2 Corinthians 3:18).

On two other notable Biblical occasions the metamorphosis is so complete as to be evident for all to see: Exodus 34:29; and Acts 6:15.

“In Simple Terms How Can I Let This Happen In My Life?” Practice! Practice! Practice!

These two commands are in present tense – Keep on doing them daily.

Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

God’s will is good.

God’s will is pleasing.

God’s will is perfect (τέλειος).

In light of all the circumstances, offering our bodies to Christ is the most reasonable, satisfying and proper thing in the world to do.