

Romans 12

v.1 Beseech- beg, urge, not command but plead with

- therefore- This practical area of the epistle cannot be separated from what leads up to it. We are to do these practical things as a result of our justification by faith, our sanctification by Christ's sacrifice and the knowledge of God's eternal plan and provision for our lives.

- by the mercies of God- this is our vehicle, our enabler,- Lamentations 3:22-26 Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the LORD.

- present- technical term used for bringing offering to the altar in Levitical sacrifice- . paristemi, par-is'-tay-mee; or prol. paristano, par-is-tan'-o; from G3844 and G2476; to stand beside, i.e. (trans.) to exhibit, proffer, (spec.) recommend, (fig.) substantiate; or (intrans.) to be at hand (or ready), aid:--assist, bring before, command, commend, give presently, present, prove, provide, shew, stand (before, by, here, up, with), yield.- Same word used in 6:13 translated yield

- Living sacrifice- Romans 6:13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

- Holy and acceptable- remember we are in this state by what He has already done, this is not a goal but a fact.

- Reasonable service- this is normal Christianity not super spirituality

v.2 Conformed- Greek- suschematizo- fashion yourself according to- doesn't refer so much to outward things as it does to the inward man, the outward things will fall into line

- transformed- Greek- metamorphoo- transformed into something else, like a butterfly or tadpole, everything is there that is necessary for the transformation to take place

- renewing- renovating, of your mind- How ? The Word

- prove the perfect will of God- be used fully to the capacity that He wants us to be used

v.3 Don't be puffed up- remember Israel, God is the one Who chooses who and how will be used in what manner.

- God has given us all a measure of faith, it is up to us to utilize it, remember that (Eph 3:20 NKJV) Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly

above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

v.4 We all are called to be used in some capacity, we each have different gifts that manifest themselves in different ways, all are necessary

v.6 Gifts- charisma and - grace- charis, are the same root word, it is from God

v.6-8 Gifts are given to be used, in the natural function of the body, not just in some supernatural experience

- prophesy- telling forth of the things of God, not in supernatural, " I have a word for you" but in ministering the Word in applicational way to individuals

- in proportion to our faith- this is not a license to loosely play with what sometimes is termed prophesy but usually just sensual experience or worse familiar spirits

- ministry- service, waiting on

- teaching- instruction from the Word

- exhort- Greek- parakletos, come alongside to instruct and comfort, used by Jesus as a name for the Holy Spirit

- gives with liberality- single purpose

- leads with diligence- leading is a gift, lead don't follow

- mercy- help with cheerfulness

v.9 Love without hypocrisy- we are now in **the one another ministries-**

- Ephesians 4:11-13 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

- abhor evil, cling to good- Love God , hate sin

v.10 Kindly affectionate with brotherly love- treat people with that genuine love

- give preference- consider others more important

v.11 This should be our priority , ministering to one another

- fervent in spirit and serving the Lord- we serve God by serving others

- a servant does the will of the master- What is His will ?

- all come to repentance

- edify the body

- seek the lost, bring back those driven away, strengthen the sick, bind up the broken,

v.12 Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation- looking ahead, take your mind of circumstance and look to purpose

- continue in prayer- as we keep ourselves in communication with Him, all becomes easier.

v.13 Meet one another's needs

v.14 In context, could this be those in the body who persecute us ?

v.15 As Jesus came to identify with, so must we

v.16 Have the mind of Christ- Philippians 2:5-9- be others centered, servant minded

v.18 Do everything you can to be at peace

v.19-20 Heaping coals on the head is not judgment, but rather a practice of giving your burning coals to another to take and use for his warmth or to start his fire.

v.21 This doesn't mean that good will always triumph over evil in the natural realm but it will always overcome it. This refers more to our transformation vs. conformity.