

Romans 12:1-2
Spiritual Renewal Week 2018



Message 1: The Essence of the Christian Life

Verse 1

brothers

appeal

therefore ... by the
mercies of God

present a sacrifice

your bodies

living

holy

acceptable

spiritual worship

Verse 2

conformed	
world	
transformed	
renewal of the mind that by testing you may discern the will of God	
good, acceptable, perfect	

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2, NLT)

“Give your whole self to God, for this is only reasonable. Do not be shaped by this world, but be transformed with new patterns of thinking. The result will be that you will discover God’s good, pleasing, and perfect will.”¹

How did Paul hope the Romans would respond?

“[This is] one of the best-known passages in the NT. Its fame is justified: here Paul succinctly and with vivid imagery summarizes what the Christian response to God’s grace in Christ should be.”²

Romans 1:25 - Romans 11:36

Romans 1:28

¹ Schreiner, T. (1998). *Romans* (p.642). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

² Moo, D. J. (1996). *The Epistle to the Romans* (p. 748). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Message 2: We Have Every Reason to Give Ourselves to God

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2, NLT)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers.

It is a _____ appeal.

It is a _____ appeal.

It is a _____ appeal.

therefore ... by the mercies of God

Romans 11:32

Romans 9:15, 18, 23

What is Romans about? It’s a story of _____.

“The commands about what you should _____ are anchored in the _____ of what is already true.

present your bodies as a ... sacrifice

It is a sacrifice of _____.

It is a sacrifice that is _____.

It is a sacrifice that follows the _____.

spiritual worship

Message 3: Worship from a Transformed Mind

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2, NLT)

living

holy

acceptable

2 Cor. 5:9

Phil. 4:18

Col. 3:20

Heb. 13:16

Heb. 13:20-21

this world

conformed

“Christians have been introduced to the life of the world to come; what a tragedy, then, if they conform to the perishing world they have left.”³

³ Morris, Leon (1988). *The Epistle to the Romans* (p. 435). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

be transformed

by the renewal of your mind

mind

“The meaning is that the Christian confession demands that the entire bent of one’s mind be changed. The entire clause may be rendered as ‘permit God to change you inside by giving you a completely new mind’ or ‘... by making your mind and heart completely different.’”⁴

“This ‘re-programming’ of the mind does not take place overnight but is a lifelong process by which our way of thinking is to resemble more and more the way God wants us to think.”⁵

⁴ Newman, B. M., & Nida, E. A. (1973). *A handbook on Paul’s letter to the Romans* (p. 235). New York: United Bible Societies.

⁵ Moo, D. J. (1996). *The Epistle to the Romans* (pp. 756–757). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Message 4: Discerning God's Perfect Will

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2, NLT)

Do not be conformed

Be transformed

Is the first outward conformity and the second inward transformation?

renewal ... that by testing you may discern what is the will of God

good

acceptable

perfect

Message 5: Give Your Whole Self to God

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Romans 12:1-2 Reading Guide

Reading ideas:

Monday	Romans 1:18-25	Romans 1	Romans 1-2
Tuesday	Romans 3:21-26	Romans 3	Romans 3-4
Wednesday	Romans 5:6-11	Romans 5	Romans 5-6
Thursday	Romans 6:12-14	Romans 6	Romans 7-8
Friday	Romans 8:5-11	Romans 8	Romans 9-10
Saturday	Romans 11:25-36	Romans 12	Romans 11-12

_____ God shows his love for us in that while we _____
_____ were still sinners Christ died for us _____ ...

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Renewed Thinking Application Chart

<i>aspect of my life</i>	<i>How would someone think about this who did not know the gospel? Someone who was following the thinking of this present age?</i>	<i>How would a person who understands God's mercy in Romans think about this? What would be a new, eternal perspective?</i>

Additional Notes