

Romans 12:1-2
“Living Out Your Faith”

~ INTRO. ~

(Rom 1:16)

*“I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
for it is the power of God to salvation...”*

THE POWER OF GOD HAS BEEN AT WORK FOR YOU:

- 1) Jesus **saved** you from the **guilt & penalty** of sin...
 - Remember He “*justified*” you – (Chp. #4-5).
- 2) Jesus **saves** you from the **habit & power** of sin
 - He’s “*sanctifying*” you – (Chp. #6-8).

~ STUDY ~

NOW IN (Chp. #12)...

- Paul makes a major change in topic.
 - He shifts from teaching **doctrine**
 - (what WE should know)...
 - Into describing **practice** (what WE should do / be).

HE TEACHES BELIEVERS...

- **How to** live out faith in a fallen world...
 - That fills our minds with DESIRES...
 - That take us away from mission.

(v.1) NKJV

- He emphasizes **a logical response** to grace...
 - As being a *living sacrifice*.

IN OTHER WORDS...

- By taking our direction from the word of God...
 - We discover His will for things that are good.
- This choice is contrasted against ways hostile to God.
 - (1 John 2:16) NLT
 - (Ps 36:1-4) NLT

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To be a *living sacrifice* means:

- Continually yielding our life to God.
- Letting Him direct our actions, words, time, and thoughts.
- Dying to selfish-desires and living in obedience to His will.

KEY:

- It's not a one-time act at the altar...
 - It's a **daily decision** – “*Lord, my life belongs to You.*”

(v.2) NKJV

“*do not be conformed*” = Speaks of molding clay around a form.

IF WE'VE RECEIVED THE GRACE OF GOD...

- Then we're to live... lives that reflect this *transformation*.

WE'RE TO STOP...

- **Being shaped by the beliefs & values of the age.**
 - Stop honoring God with your mouth...
 - But keeping your heart far from Him.

(v.2) “*transformed*”

- This is called a **cooperative command.**
 - As we respond... we're changed.

HERE'S THE POINT:

- **Doctrine & duty** go together.
 - Our learning should impact our living.
- Our lives are the **barometer** of our relationship with God.
 - If my talk doesn't match my walk...
 - It's only because I'm NOT surrendering to God.

(Rom. 12:2) NLT

THREE APPLICATIONS:

#1 – Separated For God's Use

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(1 John 3:1-3) NLT

WE LEARN...

- To stop participating in things that defile / spoil / or hinder...
 - Our relationship with God.

IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG...

- To learn that if you leave a gallon of milk...
 - On the table all day... it's going to spoil.

JESUS SAID (Matt. 12:30) NLT

HERE'S THE TRANSFORMATION:

- We learn to cooperate with God...
 - Instead of working against Him.

#2 – In But Not Of

(1 Cor. 5:9-13) NLT

GOD IS CALLING CHRISTAINS TO BE PURE.

- (1 Peter 1:13-20) NLT

HERE'S THE TRANSFORMATION:

- Protect your mind from what you put into it.

DON'T CELEBRATE WHAT JESUS DIED FOR!

#3 – Walking Worthy

(Eph. 5:2 / 8 / 10-11) NLT

- 1) Walk in love (v.2)
- 2) Walk as children of light (v.8)
- 3) Find out what is acceptable to God (v.10)
 - What I listen to?

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- What I watch?
- What am I being influenced by?

4) Leave toxic relationships that drag me down (v.11)

HERE’S THE TRANSFORMATION:

- I gain a sober mind & turn from things...
 - That have been hindering my relationship with God.

~ IN CLOSING ~

GOD’S GRACE IS PRESENT...

- To transform our lives this morning.

IS THERE ANYONE HERE THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE DIRECTIONS?