Romans 12

Greg Kline · Romans 12:1–21 · Series: **Romans**

INTRODUCTION

- The challenge was to look at what Christ spelled out as those who would be children of Him, those who would enter the kingdom of heaven, and determine, do I stack up like that?
- In Romans chapter 12, in the first two verses, there's a large challenge set forth by Paul and what a Christian is supposed to be.

1 Be Transformed by the Renewal of Your Mind

Romans 12:1–2; 2 Corinthians 4:16–18

- I appeal to you, therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
- There is this idea in these two verses of a complete transformation.
- Though our outer self is wasting away our inner self is being renewed day by day.
- Without completely, utterly, entirely devoting all of yourself to Him, you are nothing.

2 Recognize Who You Are and Use Your Gifts

Romans 12:3–8

- Paul's curing the identity crisis that's set forth with the idea of transformation.
- Not to think more highly than you ought, but to recognize who you are.
- Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.
- Do we think God is deceived? That just because someone can do more, it means I don't have to do anything.
- Where do you fit into this picture? What part of this is you?

3 Abhor What Is Evil: No Excuses

Romans 12:9

- Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil? Hold fast to what is good.
- The exception has never proven the rule. It is an excuse to not be transformed.
- The transformed Christian so seeks Christ, so goes after him that there are no excuses, only action to be taken.
- God does not expect us to be physically slain, otherwise we would have no service to him.
- He expects us to kill our old self, to be different, to commit solely to him, doing what he has asked us to do.

4 Marks of a Christian: Outdo One Another in Showing Honor

Romans 12:10–13

- Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.
- I race to make everyone else foremost in the kingdom of God.
- Rejoice in hope. Be patient in tribulation. Be constant in prayer.
- We need to cling to God because the truth is God has never moved.
- The idea in the church is there is stuff to be done. If you don't do it, somebody else has to.

5 Bless Those Who Persecute You

Romans 12:14–21

- Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse them.
- It's not a gospel of an avoidance, it's a gospel of love. It is a gospel of sacrifice, and that means going to the very people who persecute you.
- Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- Because in the end, in it all, God will prevail. The question is, whose side will you be on?
- Not what side do your bodily actions show on Sunday morning, but where is your heart?

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Have you chosen to love the way God has? Have you chosen to be such a spiritual sacrifice where you live in a way that is considered holy and acceptable?**

MY NOTES