

Book of Romans Part 32 October 19, 2022

Romans 12:1-2

A Living Sacrifice

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform 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.

Our sacrifice to God is an ongoing lifestyle of submission and obedience.

A living sacrifice means I am sacrificing how I live my daily life.

It is not a sacrifice if it doesn't cost us something.

What have you ever given up to the Lord that you really needed?

What we give up to the Lord pales in comparison to what we receive in return.

Surrender means giving up all our rights, expectations, and desires to God; and we do it out of obedience to him.

Matthew 10:39 ³⁹ If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

The Passion Translation

³⁹ All who seek to live apart from me will lose it all. But those who let go of their lives for my sake and surrender it all to me will discover true life!

Our own way leads to loss. God's way leads to life.

Proverbs 16:25

²⁵ There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

We must surrender in order to receive what God has for us.

God never asks us to surrender anything without replacing it with something new and better.



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In light of what God has done for us, we are to offer our bodies to Him.

My body is no longer mine to do with what I want.

Our bodies are sacred. They house our spirit and our soul.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

¹⁹ Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

We are not our own, and we are not on our own.

We need to get over this world!

We need to be aware of culture's tendency to try to creep in on our belief system.

Colossians 2:8, 20-22

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.

²⁰ Since you died with Christ to the elemental spiritual forces of this world, why, as though you still belonged to the world, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? ²² These rules, which have to do with things that are all destined to perish with use, are based on merely human commands and teachings.

We need to see the world correctly, through God's eyes, and stop trying to conform to its patterns.

This world is not our home, and this culture does not speak for us.

There is no one more relevant than God Himself!

God doesn't need an update!

God never said His truth would always be popular!



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Hebrews 4:12

¹² For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

God's Word is truth, and it is absolute!

God existed before anything else - and will exist after all has passed.

In view of what God has done for you in your spirit, you should please God with your body, and be transformed by renewing our mind. And when you have done this work to be integrated - body, soul, and spirit - then you will be in a place to discern God's voice and separate it from the other voices.

Our spirit is driven by God's thoughts and feelings. Our body and mind are driven by our own thoughts and feelings.

Our lives are often driven by what we think and feel.

Notes



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