

Romans 12:1-2
For the week of 1/14/24

Reflection

1. What were some of the takeaways, for you, from Sunday's sermon?

2. Were there questions, comments, concerns...?

12:1, This verse is one of the most important in all the Bible, and contains more key theological terms and truths for its size than perhaps any other verse of Scripture. Having completed his explanation of sin, salvation, sanctification, and sovereignty, Paul now does to the Roman believers, in a manner of speaking, what the Holy Spirit does in our lives—he urges the Roman believers to act on the truth they have received.¹

12:2, The person who has truly sacrificed himself or herself to God will be distinguished by one overriding characteristic that informs the rest of life. That characteristic is the unwillingness to be conformed to the pattern of this world. Or, as J. B. Phillips put it in his widely-known translation of this verse, “Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its mold, but submit to God as He remolds your mind from within so that you may practice that the plan of God for you is good.”² But how exactly is the renewing to take place? What is to “fuel” the metamorphosis that takes place in the believer’s life? Transformation (“conformation” to the image of Christ) happens when the renewed mind begins to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. It is the will of God—his standards, his desires, his motives, his values, his practices—which gradually pull the monarch butterfly of the believer out of the world’s cocoon into which he or she has been squeezed. It is a knowledge and practice of the will of God that leads to spiritual growth and maturity in the Christian’s life.³

Observation (vs. 1)

3. What is Paul saying in this verse?

¹ Kenneth Boa and William Kruidenier, [Romans](#), vol. 6, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 361–362.

² Kenneth Boa and William Kruidenier, [Romans](#), vol. 6, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 364.

³ Kenneth Boa and William Kruidenier, [Romans](#), vol. 6, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 366.

Interpretation

4. Define sacrifice –

Looking at the Leviticus Chart (page 4), see the five main sacrifices from the Old Testament. Take time to review the sacrifices and why they were given. Read the Scriptures pertaining to each one. Note that the first three are “Dedicatory Sacrifices” (honoring God for what He has done) and the last two are “Propitiatory Sacrifices” (temporarily appeasing or turning away God’s wrath).

5. What do these verses say about the “Once-And-For-All Propitiatory Sacrifice” of Christ?

Romans 3:25 –

Hebrews 2:17 –

1 John 4:10 –

6. Why is this “spiritual worship”?

Application

7. Are you “all in” for Christ because of what He has done for you? Why or why not?

8. Because of the “Propitiatory Sacrifice” of Christ, how will you now daily present your body as a “Dedicatory Living Sacrifice”

Observation (vs. 2)

9. What is the message that Paul is conveying to the church in Rome within this verse?

Interpretation

10. What does it mean to “not be conformed to this world”? (see also 1 Pet 1:14; 1 John 2:15)

11. What does it mean to be “transformed by the renewal of your mind”? (see also Ps. 51:10; 1 Cor 2:14-16; 2 Cor 3:16-18, 10:5; Eph 4:23, 5:1; Phil 2:5, 4:8; Col 3:2-10)

12. What are ways that one may test and discern what is the will of God?

Application

13. What are the subtle ways (or not-so-subtle ways) that you are being conformed to this world?

14. How can you be “transformed by the renewal of your mind”?

15. How do you discern and test to differentiate between the will of God and a good idea?

Leviticus

5 OFFERINGS OR SACRIFICES

OFFERING NAME	LEVITICUS VERSES	PURPOSE	PORTIONS	ASSOCIATED OFFERINGS
Burnt	1:1 – 17 6:8 – 13	A gift to make atonement of sin or for prayer or praise	God: all but skin Priests: none People: none	Often accompanied by grain offering
Grain	2:1 – 16 7:9 – 14	A voluntary expression of devotion to God, for His goodness and providence	God: incense, oil, portion of flour and whole grain Priests: left over grain People: none	Often a supplement to the burnt or fellowship offerings
Fellowship or Peace	3:1 – 17 7:11 – 34 17:10 – 14 22:21 – 30	An offering of fellowship between God and the people.	God: fat, kidneys, lobe of liver and fat tail Priests: breast, right thigh People: all other meat	Grain offering
Purification or Sin	4:1 – 5:13 6:24 – 30 8:14 – 17 10:16 – 20 16:11 – 22	An offering for the forgiveness of sin or to be cleansed from impurity	God: fat, kidneys, lobe of liver and fat tail Priests: meat except if the offering was for a priest or the whole community People: none	Often offered before a burnt offering or fellowship offering
Reparation or Guilt	5:14 – 6:7 7:1 – 7 14:12 – 18 19:20 – 22	Atonement for violating the Lord's holy things or the property of others. Accompanied by restitution	God: fat, kidneys, lobe of liver and fat tail Priests: meat except if the offering was for a priest or the whole community People: none	Sometimes part of a series with sin, burnt and/or grain offerings.

Bible BOOK CLUB

www.biblebookclub.com | © 2021 by Susan S. Merrill. All Rights Reserved.