

## HANDOUT PART TWO-CONSECRATION: “Keys to Consecration” Romans 12:1-12:2

**READ PHIL 2:12-13** *Oswald Chambers puts it this way, Work Out Your Own Salvation...For it is God Who Works In You. Then, Chambers goes on to Say...Your Will Agrees with God, But in Your Flesh there is a Nature that Renders You Powerless to Do What You Know You Ought to Do. You Have to “WORK OUT” What God “WORKS IN” You— NOT Work to Accomplish or Earn “Your Own Salvation,”.*

- Stubbornness Blocks God’s Will...The Only Thing that Will Remove This Barrier of Stubbornness is Obedience to God the Holy Spirit.
- To Live a Consecrated Life Requires that We Make that Choice “MOMENT BY MOMENT”!
- Jesus Desires that We Have a True Heart Change...He Wants To Move YOU From Where YOU are Right Now into a Deeper and More Intimate Relationship with Him.

**KEY: God Wants to Move US From Being “CONVERTED to Being “CONSECRATED”!**

- God Desires More For Your Life than to Just Getting Saved...He Wants You to Be Filled with His Spirit, Consecrated and Sanctified...**TO BECOME HOLY!**

**KEY:** The Power for Transformation Was Imputed to You When You Were Saved! To Avail Yourself to this Transforming Power Requires that You Daily Surrender Yourself to Gods Control.

**READ ROMANS 12:1-2** God Desire’s We Move Beyond Being Converted To Being “CONSECRATED”! *...AND A CONSECRATED LIFE IS A SACRIFICIAL LIFE! This Means that Every Possession Is Christ’s...NOT YOURS! It Means that EVERY MOMENT is Christ’s...NOT YOURS! And EVERY EFFORT of Your Life is Christ’s...NOT YOURS! When You Hold Something Back from Christ You’re saying, He is Not Worth Sacrificing What You Want.*

Romans 12 says We Are To Be **Living Sacrifices!** To the Jews this would Have Seemed like the “Ultimate Paradox” *because the Jewish Mind Set would have Automatically Assumed that a Sacrifice Was Dead.*

**The KEY Point Paul is Making...When You Give a Living Sacrifice to Christ it is An Offering of YOUR Life that... “Was Once Dead and Has Been GIVEN NEW LIFE”.**

- *As believers WE MUST STRIVE to LIVE LIVES that are SEPARATED for God’s SERVICE...LIVES SET APART FOR HIS USE!*
- **The Problem with “Living Sacrifices” is that they Sometimes CRAWL OFF the Altar!**
- To Be a Living Sacrifice is a “Daily Choice” which Makes it An Issue of the Heart.

**Paul adds Another Ingredient to the Consecration Mix ...Spiritual Acts of Worship.**

- In The Greek The term here for Spiritual is logikos (Lo-ge-kos) which is where we get our English word logic...It Means to be Logical or Reasonable.
- Paul moves us full circle: He starts with our Mortal Existence, then Adds our Spiritual Life...And Now He Finishes With the Reason...**OUR LOGICAL PURPOSE!**

**OUR LOGICAL PURPOSE...Is To Serve God With ALL that We Are and With Every Ability that We Have Been Given From God!**

- The Question We Need to Ask Ourselves...When was the Last Time I Gave Christ MY Very ALL...My Absolute Best?

Paul Confronts a Very Real Problem in the Roman church That Consists Yet Today. There is a Problem When the Church Takes On the Character of the World. Paul is Talking about Allowing the World Around Us to Shape and Change Us into its Image...**BUT...Jesus Wants Us to Be Changed Into His Likeness!**

**The Central Issue is this...If WE Allow the World to Continue to Shape OUR Values and Virtues...WE Will Never Experience Consecration.**

*As Christians We are to Live Above the Influence of this World, Because We are to Be Influenced by God!*

What Influences You today? Or Let Me Put it This Way...Where and with What do You spend the Most of Your time...Work...TV... Games... Sports...BIBLE?!

**KEY: INPUT Determines OUTPUT! What is Programming Your Mind and Heart?!**

*We Are Meant to Live Differently than the World Around Us...BUT...When Society Cannot Tell the Difference Between Churched and Un-Churched People...We Have A Serious Problem.*

**The Sad Reality is that Satan has Convinced the Church of a Bold Faced Lie...Which is That We DON'T Need To Be "Radically Different" Than The World.**

**KEY: It's IMPOSSIBLE for the Church to Change the World If It Is LIKE the World!**

- The Great Commission Can and Will NOT Happen Apart From CONSECRATION!

Today Many Church's believe they Need to Compromise Doctrine...Believing Satan's Lie that They Must Identify with Unbelievers...So that They Can Win Them to Christ! **This Does NOT Work! What You Win Someone With...Is What You Win them To!**

**Consider: In Christ...You are the Only Lifeline for Family, Friends, Neighbors and Co-Workers that do Not Know Christ as Their Personal Savior!**

- To Be An Effective Lifeline for Christ to the World Requires We Live a Life Consecrated to Him-Letting Him Transform Our Thinking, Our Desires and Our Lives!
- Paul says that the Mind Must be Renewed Before a Christian Can Experience a Transformed Life. This Renewing Means to Have A "New Way Of Thinking".
- *This is Accomplished Only Through the Power of God in the Holy Spirit and It Represents a Complete Change from One Form to Another...TRANSFORMATION*

I Want You to Consider, "What Areas of Your life is God Speaking to You About? Is God showing YOU Areas that Yet Need to be Consecrated to Him?

- Is God Speaking to You about Your Attitude? God Wants You to Live With Grace
- Is God Speaking to YOU about Your Abilities? God Gave You Gifts and Abilities to be Used For "His Purpose" and for the Good of Others.
- Are You too Busy "Selfishly Using Your God Given Gifts for Yourself? Or...Perhaps Scared to Use those Gifts for God? OR, Maybe this Morning...God Is Speaking to You about Your Actions? You See Your Actions are a Direct Outcome of Your Attitude! {Your Heart!}

**If Your Attitude is Not Surrendered to God...Not Consecrated to His Purpose...But Only Yours... You Will Not Have God's Desires...You Will Not Live for His Glory!**

- Instead, the Things You do Will Be Focused More on what Makes You Happy... Instead of Being Obedient to God's Word.

But a Life Consecrated to Jesus Christ Will Exemplify The Great Commandment that Jesus Spoke in

*Matt 22: 37-39 "Love the Lord your God with All your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it, Love Your Neighbor as Yourself."*

*As We Live Lives Consecrated to God We Will Surrender Fully to His Commands and Leading...And the Outcome will be Loving God, Loving People and Enjoying This Life to the Fullest!*

**"LIFE" POINT: A CONSECRATED LIFE IS A LIFE SACRIFICED FOR GODS GLORY!**