



Route 66, Romans 12:1-2

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Previous verses -

Romans 3:23-24 *“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus”*

Romans 6:19-23 *“I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Romans 5:8 *“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

A Living Sacrifice -- Roman 12:1-2

“Therefore, I urge (encourage) you, brothers and sisters, (Christian’s) in view of God’s mercy, to offer (present) your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”

Written to believers - don’t expect non-believers to live as believers.

Non-believers - Sin

Believers - Surrender. “Present your bodies as a holy sacrifice.”

In view of God’s mercy –

Chapter 6 talks about being slaves to sin but freed through Christ.

Remember what it was like before Christ?

Romans 3:10-18

“There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit.” “The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know. There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Matthew 10:31

Jesus didn't spend time with tax collectors and sinners because he wanted to appear inclusive, accepting, or tolerant. He spent time with them to call them to a changed and fruitful life. To die to self and live for him. His call is for transformation of life not affirmation of identity.

"Present" a priest presenting the sacrifice for sin.

"Your body" 1 Corinthians 6:15-20

"Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. 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; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

"Living sacrifice" Living not dead.
Living sacrifices can squirm off the altar.

"...Holy and pleasing"

Romans 1:7 *"To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:"*

I Corinthians 1:2 *"To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people,"*

Ephesians 3:16-21 *"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."*

Ephesians 5:1-3 *"Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people."*

Ephesians 5:27 *"and to present to himself a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless."*

Colossians 1:21-23 *"and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless."*

v2 *"Do not conform to the pattern of this world,"*

Don't be a conformist
Don't be molded into the pattern of this world.
This world is controlled by satan.

Leviticus 18:1-5 *"The Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'I am the Lord your God. You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the Lord your God. Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord.'"*

"...but be transformed (metamorphosis) by the renewing of your mind."
Renewing of your mind - be a thinking Christian.

I Corinthians 2:16 *"Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ."*

Philippians 4:8-9 *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."*

When your mind is renewed you want what God wants.

- LOVE GOD... and do what you want.

"...Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

1. Gods will is always GOOD.

Romans 8:28 *"God works all things together for good..."*

2. Gods will is always PLEASING. (Acceptable) to God.

Psalms 37:4 *"Delight yourself in the Lord. And He will give you the desires of your heart."* not he will give you what you want.... but he will give you desires in your heart.

3. Gods will is PERFECT.

Isaiah 55:8-9 *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."*