

# Romans

## (41) Living as God's Elect

### *How to be a living sacrifice...12:1-3*

Why is the command *living sacrifice* not possible for the unsaved? Rom.6:13; Eph.2:1,5

**Because the unsaved are dead, spiritually. The redeemed are alive, able to sacrifice.**

What has God always sought as an acceptable sacrifice to Him? Ps.51:15-17

**A mouth that declares His praise, a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart.**

And what is His desired spiritual (or reasonable) act of worship? 12:1

**Full surrender of all that we are (living sacrifice), holy (set apart) and pleasing to God.**

What is this fallen world around us trying to do? vs.2

**The world is trying to squish us into its mold; how to think, dress, talk, live. Done to us.**

What careful insight and instruction does Paul give us about this issue? vs.2

**Don't conform any longer (like before salvation) to this pattern. Renew your mind.**

Comment? Deut.18:9-14; ICor.3:19; IICor.4:4; IICor.6:14-17; Eph.4:17-20; James1:27;4:4; Rev.12:9

**We were part of the evil world system but now... We need retrained! Renew your mind!**

What are some things involved in this *renewing of our minds*? Eph.5:18; Col.3:1-17; 1:28-29

**By the indwelling Holy Spirit, considering our members dead. Put on the new self. Word...**

As our mind is renewed by the Word and the Holy Spirit, what begins to happen? vs.3

**Then we can test and align ourselves with God's will, good, pleasing, perfect (all nouns).**

### *Understanding and applying our spiritual gifts...12:4-8 (ICor.12)*

Before he teaches us about our spiritual gifts/service, what about our attitude? vs.3 IPet.5:5-6

**True service to God must come from a humble heart. Evaluate yourself w/sober judgment.**

Did the Apostle Paul demonstrate this humility? ITim.1:12-17

**Absolutely. Considered himself the chief of sinners. Yet God's grace was more abundant!**

What is Paul's illustration regarding spiritual gifts? vs.3-4 ICor.12:12,14

**Our physical body, many parts with unique functions. Designed by His grace. All needed.**

What is the clear teaching of verse 5? ICor.12:12-27

**Each individual member in the body of Christ 'belongs' to all the others! Not optional...**

What is the significant point in verse 6a?

**ALL believers have a spiritual gift(s), according to God's grace. All different. All of grace.**

And finally, what is the point in verses 6b-8? IPet.4:10

**Whatever your gift, USE IT! None superior. None inferior. All by grace. All are needed.**

Next: A closer look at the gifts