

HARVEST FORT WORTH / EQUIP CLASS

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 2025

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TITLE: LET YOUR LIFE BE A LIVING SACRIFICE TO GOD

INTRODUCTION: There are four sections or transitions in this book.

- The wrath of God (Chapters 1-2)
- The grace of God (Chapters 3-5)
- The plan of God (Chapters 6-11)
- The will of God (Chapter 12-16)

In the book of Romans there are four transitional therefore's.

1. **Romans 3:19**, The therefore of **condemnation** (by the deeds of the Law no flesh shall be justified)
2. **Romans 5:1**, The therefore of **justification** (the gavel goes down, the judge treats you like you have committed no offenses, not guilty)
3. **Romans 8:1**, The therefore of **exoneration** (you are not condemned by God and no one can make you condemned)
4. **Romans 12:1**, The therefore of **consecration** (because all these things are true, we should allow God to transform our lives)

Romans 12:1-21

1. DON'T COPY THIS WORLD BUT LET GOD TRANSFORM THE WAY YOU THINK

Romans 12:1 (The King James Version)

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

- **Romans 12:1 KJV**) I beseech you, I urge you, I beg you, I implore you, I entreat you.
- **JB Phillips translation on verse 1:** "With eyes wide open to the mercies of God."

Romans 12:1-5 New Living Translation

1. And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

- Let us compare the acceptable sacrifice of an animal in the O.T.

2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

3 Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.

- **JB Phillips translation on verse 3:** "Don't cherish exaggerated ideas of your own importance."

4 Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, 5 so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

- **JB Phillips translation on verse 2:** "Don't let the world squeeze you into its own mold."
- **Quote by Pastor Skip Heitzig:** "Living sacrifices have a tendency to attempt to squirm off the altar."
- As Christians, we are called by God to be non-conformists and not copy the customs of this world.

2. THERE ARE A VARIETY OF GIFTS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST AND THEY ARE TO BE USED IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY

Romans 12:6-8

6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to **prophecy**, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. **7** If your gift is **serving others**, serve them well. If you are a **teacher**, teach well. **8** If your gift is to **encourage others**, be encouraging. If it is **giving**, give generously. If God has given you **leadership ability**, take the responsibility

seriously. And if you have a gift for **showing kindness** to others, do it gladly.

- In **Romans 12** Paul mentions 7 spiritual gifts, in **1 Corinthians 12** he mentions 17 gifts and in **Ephesians 5** he mentions 5 gifts.

3. BELOW ARE 30 PRACTICAL ADMONITIONS ON HOW TO TREAT ONE ANOTHER. THE SAVED (believer) AND THE UNSAVED (unbeliever).

Quote by Pastor Gary Hamrick: "How we treat other people is a direct reflection of our relationship with Jesus."

Romans 12:9-21 In these verses the NKJV uses the phrase (one another) 3 different times)

9 Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. **10** Love **each other** with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring **each other**. **11** Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. **12** Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. **13** When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

14 Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. **15** Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. **16** Live in harmony with **each other**. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

17 Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. **18** Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

19 Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say,

"I will take revenge;
I will pay them back,"
says the Lord.

20 Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them.

If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap

burning coals of shame on their heads."

21 Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good.

4. RESPECT AND HONOR THOSE WHO ARE IN AUTHORITY OVER YOU

Romans chapter 13: 3 sections

1. 13:1-7, The believer and governing authorities
2. 13:8-10, The believer and his fellow man
3. 13:11-14, The believer living in the last days

Romans chapter 13:1-5

1 Everyone must submit to governing authorities. For all authority comes from God, and those in positions of authority have been placed there by God. **2** So anyone who rebels against authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and they will be punished. **3** For the authorities do not strike fear in people who are doing right, but in those who are doing wrong. Would you like to live without fear of the authorities? Do what is right, and they will honor you. **4** The authorities are God's servants, sent for your good. But if you are doing wrong, of course you should be afraid, for they have the power to punish you. They are God's servants, sent for the very purpose of punishing those who do what is wrong. **5** So you must submit to them, not only to avoid punishment, but also to keep a clear conscience.

5. PAY THOSE YOU OWE A DEBT AND PAY YOUR TAXES

Romans 13:6-7

6 Pay your taxes, too, for these same reasons. For government workers need to be paid. They are serving God in what they do. **7** Give to everyone what you owe them: Pay your taxes and government fees to those who collect them, and give respect and honor to those who are in authority.

1 PETER 2: 13-14

13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether it be to the king as supreme,
14 or unto governors as unto those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well.