



# The Epistle to the *Romans*

**Be Ye Transformed!**  
**Chapter 12**

# Outline of Romans

- **1 - 8 Faith Doctrinal**
  - 1-3 Sin: (the most complete diagnosis)
  - 4-5 Salvation
  - 6-8 Sanctification
- **9-11 Hope Dispensational**
  - 9 Israel - Past
  - 10 Israel - Present
  - 11 Israel - Future
- **12-16 Love Practical**

# Practical Instruction

- In the first part of Romans we saw the helmet of salvation and the shield of faith displayed
- But in this last section, our feet are to be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace
  - We are to *stand* in the battle
  - we are to *walk* in our life
  - we are to *run* in the race

# Change of Focus

- Under “sanctification” we were dealing with Christian *character*;
  - in this section we will be dealing with Christian *conduct*.
- There it was the *inner* man;
  - here it is the *outward* man.
- There it was the *condition* of the Christian;
  - here it is the *consecration* of the Christian.
- There it was who the Christian *is*;
  - here it is what he *does*.
- We have seen the *privileges* of grace;
  - we now consider the *precepts* of grace.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**Romans 8:28-29**



Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? **Romans 8:30-32**

Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**Romans 8:33-35**

As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

**Romans 8:36-37**



For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor  
things present, nor things to come,  
Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature,  
shall be able to separate us from the love of  
God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Romans 8:38-39**

# Introduction Chapter 12

- Verses 1 & 2 can be the 2 verses in the Bible that will change your life more than ever imagined.
- The challenge that begins to answer “So What?”

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**

- “Therefore” as a response to all the foregoing.
- Whenever we see a ‘therefore’ we need to ask what it’s there for!

# Therefore... A Quick Review...

- In chapter 3, Paul wrote *“Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”*
- Then, *“Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.”*
- In chapter 5 he wrote *“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,”*
- Conclusion? Christ has done it all!

# A Quick Review...

- But then in chapter 6: *“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.”*
- In chapter 7: *“Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.\**
- Conclusion? Faith without works is dead!



# A Quick Review...

- Paul summarises in chapter 8: *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”*
- And then goes on to say; *“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”*
- Paul concludes by telling us this a life-or-death situation!

# A Quick Review...

- But aren't we saved unconditionally, apart from our 'works'?
- Yes! - so, the issue is not Salvation!
- ...but the abundant life Jesus spoke of!

– John 10:10

- Real life, being truly alive with His Holy Spirit living within us, leading us, guiding us, helping us, empowering us, working through us!
- Paul is telling us that you can be a living Christian or a dead Christian!

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**

- “Therefore” because of what Christ has done...
- Because of he “Mercies” = *oiktirmos* rendered  
“compassion” in 2 Cor. 1:3; Phil. 2:1; Col. 3:12  
“mercy” in Heb. 10:28
- *“I beg you because of the compassion God has shown to you”*  
–God’s compassion described in detail in Romans 1-11

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**

- “Present” = “willingly yield” 6:13, 16, 19
- “your bodies” – your physical life with its desires and emotions
- “a living sacrifice”
- That which was brought for sacrifice in the OT marked the end of its life
- When we present our bodies to Christ it marks the beginning of real life

# Our Whole Bodies

- We're to give our eyes
  - choosing carefully what we see, watch and read
- We're to give our ears
  - what we listen to - from the radio to podcasts to music
- We're to give our hands
  - in all that we put them to,
- We're to give our feet
  - pleasing God in where we choose to go
- We're to give our tongues
  - taking great care in all we say, to honour Him



# Our Whole Bodies

- *“We cannot give our hearts to God and keep our bodies for ourselves”.*  
– Elizabeth Elliot
- *“Why is there a battle for our bodies?”*
- *“Because if you have the container, you have what’s within!”*

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**

- Remember that your body (7x) is referred to at the Temple of the Holy Spirit!  
—1 Cor. 6:19-20
- We are called to be holy because He is holy  
—1 Peter 1:15-16
- We are to be ‘like Him’  
—Eph 5:1 “Be ye therefore followers of God...”  
**Gr mimētēs** from where we get *mimic* or *imitator*
- We should bear a strong family likeness!

# The Work of Sanctification

When we pray to be sanctified, are we prepared to face the standard of these verses? We take the term sanctification much too lightly. Are we prepared for what sanctification will cost? It will cost an intense narrowing of all our interests on earth, and an immense broadening of all our interests in God.

Sanctification means intense concentration on God's point of view.

# The Work of Sanctification

It means every power of body, soul and spirit chained and kept for God's purpose only.

Are we prepared for God to do in us all that He separated us for? And then after His work is done in us, are we prepared to separate ourselves to God even as Jesus did? "For their sakes I sanctify Myself."

The reason some of us have not entered into the experience of sanctification is that we have not realized the meaning of sanctification from God's standpoint.

# The Work of Sanctification

Sanctification means being made one with Jesus so that the disposition that ruled Him will rule us. Are we prepared for what that will cost? It will cost everything that is not of God in us.

Are we prepared to be caught up into the swing of this prayer of the apostle Paul's? Are we prepared to say – "Lord, make me as holy as You can make a sinner saved by grace"?



# The Work of Sanctification

Jesus has prayed that we might be one with Him as He is one with the Father.

The one and only characteristic of the Holy Ghost in a man is a strong family likeness to Jesus Christ, and freedom from everything that is unlike Him.

Are we prepared to set ourselves apart for the Holy Spirit's ministrations in us?

- Oswald Chambers

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**

- ‘reasonable’ = *logikos*
- From whence we get the word ‘Logical’
- Paul is saying *‘come on guys, think about this! It makes total sense, its logical, that we would want to give our lives completely to Christ, our bodies, our thoughts, our desires... because He is going to give us our best life! I’m pleading with you because I just don’t want to see you miss out! I know all about a wasted life! Trust me!!*

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**Romans 12:2**

- “Stop being conformed to this [age].”
- “Conformed” = pressed into a mold.
  - Modern media has placed incredible technology in Satan’s hands. The export of depravity is unprecedented
  - The underlying presuppositions of the entertainment industry is anti-godly.
  - Advertising is an exploitation of our basest desires

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**Romans 12:2**

- “keep on being transformed”:  
Present tense, Passive voice, Imperative mood
- “transformed” = *metamorphousthe*, is seen in the English word “metamorphosis”
  - A total change from inside out **2 Cor 3:18**
  - Key to change is the “mind”, the control center of one’s attitudes, thoughts, feelings, actions **Eph 4:22-23**

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:2

- To 'prove' something (old English) means to test the value of, to see if something is fit for purpose.
- How will you ever know the true value of God's will in and for your life unless you surrender to Him and let Him show you?
- Will you live out your days on Earth never knowing what could have been?





# Paul's Consistent Message in the New Testament

That ye put off concerning the former  
conversation the old man, which is corrupt  
according to the deceitful lusts;  
And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;  
And that ye put on the new man, which after  
God is created in righteousness and true  
holiness.

**Ephesians 4:22-24**

- “former conversation”  
→ “former manner of life”
- “old man” → “old self”

That ye put off concerning the former  
conversation the old man, which is corrupt  
according to the deceitful lusts;

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

And that ye put on the new man, which after  
God is created in righteousness and true  
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**Ephesians 4:22-24**

- Present tense; continuous action; passive voice

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

**Ephesians 4:22-24**

- Again, **present tense; continuous action; passive voice:**

—“And constantly allow the spirit of your mind to be renewed”

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war  
after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal,  
but mighty through God to the pulling down of  
strong holds;)

**2 Corinthians 10:3,4**

- The world is telling us to be the 'most authentic version of ourselves' but really, that's just another way of saying live how you want.
- Paul tells us the world's way is not to be our way!



Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

**2 Corinthians 10:5,6**

- The Bible says come as you are,
- ...but not stay as you are!
- *“If you want a religion to make you feel really comfortable, I certainly don't recommend Christianity”. - C.S. Lewis*

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

**Ephesians 2:2**

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

**Ephesians 2:2**

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

**1 John 5:19 (NAS)**



# Getting it all in Focus

- There are only two world views:
  - 1) We're the product of random chance with no destiny;
  - 2) We're the result of a deliberate and purposeful Creation...

# Getting it all in Focus

- And every answer to every question in life will derive from our world view:
  - Who am I?
  - Where did I come from?
  - Where am I going?
  - To whom am I accountable?

# Getting it all in Focus

- The world is looking for Conformity  
= consensus thinking.
  - Going with the flow
  - “Please leave your convictions outside of the meeting room.”
- God is looking for obedience
  - so that He can pour out His blessing
    - Psalm 1, 119

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

**Romans 12:3**

- Interesting introduction to spiritual gifts:
  - Need for humility!  
    Invariable sign of spiritual maturity
  - It begins with understanding grace...  
    It's all from (and about) Him
- The proud look tops the list of the “Big 7” **Prov 6:16-19**

# Unsightly Pride

- Self-esteem? “*When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.*” **Prov 11:2**
- By his involved word play on various forms of the verb **frone, w phroneo**, “to think,”
  - Paul emphasised that human pride is wrong partly because all natural abilities and spiritual gifts are from God **Rom 3:27; 11:18, 20**
- Every believer has a measure of faith;
  - Perfect for His plan for each of us  
**1 Tim 3:6; 1 Tim 5:22; Prov 16:18, 19  
Prov 29:23; John 3:27; Matt 20:25-28**

# Unsightly Pride

Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

**1 Timothy 3:6**

# Unsightly Pride

Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

**1 Timothy 3:6**

Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.


**1 Timothy 5:22**

Pride goeth before destruction, and an  
haughty spirit before a fall.

Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the  
lowly, than to divide the spoil with the  
proud.

**Proverbs 16:18-19**



A decorative graphic of a scroll with a yellowish-tan textured center and orange-brown borders. The scroll is held by four brown wooden pegs, two on each side. The text is written on the central part of the scroll.

Only by pride cometh contention:  
but with the well advised *is* wisdom.

**Proverbs 13:10**

A man's pride shall bring him low: but  
honor shall uphold the humble in spirit.

**Proverbs 29:23**

John answered and said, A man can receive  
nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

**John 3:27**

- “It’s amazing what can be accomplished when you don’t care who gets the credit.”

But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

**Matthew 20:25-26**

And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. **Matthew 20:27-28**

For as we have many members in one body,  
and all members have not the same office:  
So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and  
every one members one of another.

**Romans 12:4-5**

- When you don't exercise your spiritual gift,  
you are disenfranchising the Body.

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

**Hebrews 10:23-25**

Having then gifts differing according to the  
grace that is given to us, whether prophecy,  
let us prophesy according to the proportion of  
faith;

**Romans 12:6**

- All have *different* gifts **Rom 12:4**  
“not all have the same function”  
**1 Cor. 12:4**
- The Greek text is much more abrupt than any  
English translation;  
“let us” is supplied for smoother English



# Gifts

- One's "prophesying" is to be done "according to the proportion of faith":
  - A better translation would be "in agreement to the faith."
  - That is, prophesying - communicating God's message, to strengthen, encourage, and comfort

1 Cor 14:3

Is to be in right relationship to the body of truth already revealed in His Word

- "faith" as doctrine: Gal 1:23; Jude 3, 20



Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or  
he that teacheth, on teaching;  
Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that  
giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that  
ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy,  
with cheerfulness.

**Romans 12:7-8**

- Spiritual gifts don't eliminate the need for preparation
- "Exhortation": *paraklesis* calling near, comfort; encouragement

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he that teacheth, on teaching;

Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that  
giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that  
ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy,  
with cheerfulness.

**Romans 12:7-8**

- Contributing to people's needs is to be done  
with generosity, not 'skimpily' **2 Cor 8:2; 9:11,13**
- "God loveth a cheerful giver." **2 Cor 9:7**

Cheerful = *hilaros*, hilarious

# Seven Gifts

- Prophets, Teachers, Administration  
listed in 1 Corinthians 12:28
- Prophets and Pastor-Teachers  
listed in Ephesians 4:11
- Administering and Serving  
listed in 1 Peter 4:10-11
  - Whatever one's gift, he should exercise it faithfully as a stewardship from God.
  - A danger with “gifts:” *don't seek experiences*  
seek God, and seek Him in His Word.

Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Romans 12:9

- *Agape* is the signature of the Holy Spirit's presence Phil 4:8-9
- *anupokritos* unfeigned, undisguised, sincere also used
  - of love 2 Cor. 6:6; 1 Peter 1:22
  - of faith 1 Tim. 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:5
  - of wisdom James 3:17

Be kindly affectioned one to another with  
brotherly love; in honor preferring one  
another;

**Romans 12:10**

- *philadelphia*, brotherly love
- “Honor” = to respect someone on a true evaluation of their worth
- *Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others* **Phil 2:4**
- These exhortations are at the *end* of this epistle:
  - They rely on the foundation that has been set
  - They can only be produced by the Holy Spirit
  - They cannot be produced in the flesh.

Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit;  
serving the Lord;

**Romans 12:11**

- *Gr. okneros* sluggish, backward  
“Not lagging behind in diligence” (NAS)
- Diligence is essential in any serious endeavor.
- Fervent: *Gr. zeo* to boil with heat!

Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation;  
continuing instant in prayer; **Romans 12:12**

- Hope is prophetic awareness. It is the goal of maturity. **Rom 5:4; 8:20-25**

*“He who has no hope in eternity  
has no hold on time.” – Carlyle*

- “Patient in” = “persevering in” tribulation  
“May the lessons not be wasted.”
- “instant in prayer” =  
faithful in, devoted to, prayer

Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Romans 12:13

- “Distributing”: Different than the “giving” of v.8:
  - “contributing to fellow believers;”
  - entering into the *fellowship* of others needs;
  - as our opportunity to help.



Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

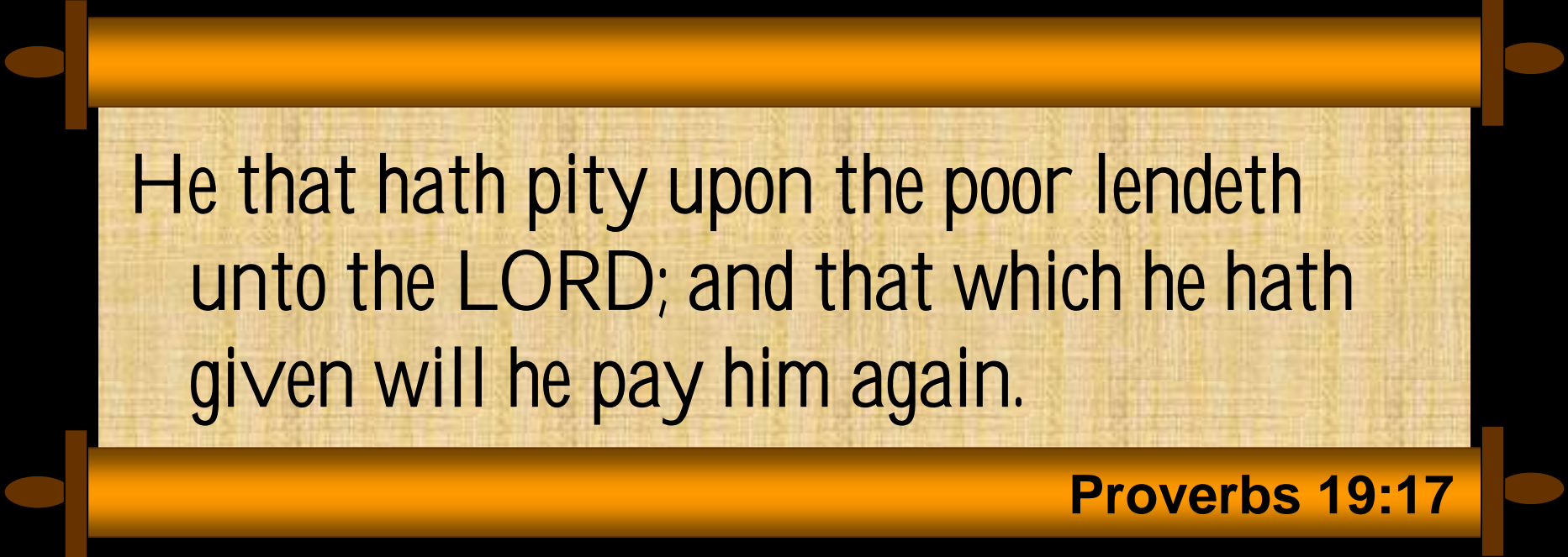
Romans 12:13

- *koinoneo*

- 1) to come into communion or fellowship with, to become a sharer, be made a partner
- 2) to enter into fellowship, join one's self to an associate, make one's self a sharer or partner; a fiduciary.

Prov 19:17; Luke 6:38

- “Given to” hospitality = *pursue* hospitality!



He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth  
unto the LORD; and that which he hath  
given will he pay him again.

**Proverbs 19:17**

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth  
unto the LORD; and that which he hath  
given will he pay him again.

**Proverbs 19:17**

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good  
measure, pressed down, and shaken together,  
and running over, shall men give into your  
bosom. For with the same measure that ye  
mete withal it shall be measured to you  
again.

**Luke 6:38**

Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

**Romans 12:13**

- This attitude characterised the Jerusalem church the church in Antioch and the Apostle Paul

Acts 2:44-45; 4:32, 34-37

Acts 11:27-30

1 Cor. 16:1- 4; 2 Cor. 89;

Rom. 15:25-27

to give to the church in Jerusalem.

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

**Hebrews 13:2**

Bless them which persecute you: bless, and  
curse not.

**Romans 12:14**

- This can only be done in the Spirit, rarely in  
the flesh

**Mt 5: 44-47; Luke 23:34**

–Paul probably also remembered Stephen

**Acts 7:59-60**

Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep  
with them that weep.

**Romans 12:15**

- Envy has no place in this
- Enter into the fellowship of others
  - *But not like Job's friends...*

Be of the same mind one toward another.

Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate.

Be not wise in your own conceits.

**Romans 12:16**

- No class distinctions in the Body of Christ.

Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

**Romans 12:17**

- Ethics don't come automatically: it takes training, commitment, and discipline.
  - A most serious lack in the Body...
- 1 Cor 9:19-23.



For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

**1 Corinthians 9:19-21**

To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with *you*.

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

**1 Corinthians 9:22-24**

And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

**1 Corinthians 9:25-27**

If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live  
peaceably with all men.

**Romans 12:18**

Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

**Romans 12:19 (KJV)**



Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

**Romans 12:19 (KJV)**

Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord."

**Romans 12:19 (NAS, NIV)**

- David declined to kill Saul on two occasions...

Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

**Romans 12:20**

- Quotation from **Proverbs 25:21-22**
- The “coals on the head” may refer to a ritual in Egypt in which a person showed his repentance by carrying a pan of burning charcoal on his head.
- Helping rather than cursing an enemy may cause him to be ashamed and penitent...

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil  
with good.

**Romans 12:21**

- Branches look like the vine; but it is the sap from the vine that actually produces the fruit...


I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that  
abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth  
forth much fruit: for without me ye can do  
nothing.

**John 15:5**



# Next Session

- Romans 13:
- Four basic Divine institutions:
  - 1) Freedom of Choice
  - 2) Marriage
  - 3) Family
  - 4) Government

The background of the entire image is a photograph of the HMS Victory, a three-masted sailing ship, docked in Portsmouth harbor. The ship is seen from a low angle, emphasizing its massive size and complex rigging. The ship's hull is painted with a yellow and black chevron pattern. A Union Jack flag flies from the mainmast. In the background, the red-brick buildings of Portsmouth are visible under a clear sky.

# Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



*Simply teaching the Bible, simply*