

## Romans 12 (12-9-10)

## THINK...AND GROW HOLY!

**TEXT: Romans 12:1** 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**.

2 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.

...your **reasonable** service...

There is a great denial of reason today. Feminine intuition and "following your heart" (meaning feelings and unbridled desires) is promoted far and wide. It is not only in popular songs and movies, but newer, so-called Bible versions are joining in this mystical (Satanic) attack upon a sound mind. They have replaced *reasonable service* with something else:

"...spiritual act of worship..."  
(NIV)

"...true and proper worship..."  
(NIV, 2010)

"...spiritual service..."  
(NAS)

It is not just in this place; there are hundreds of other examples of new versions downplaying reason and rational thinking:

- **2 Thessalonians 3:2** And that we may be delivered from **unreasonable** and wicked men: for all men have not faith.  
(KJV)

"And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **Isaiah 1:18** Come now, and let us **reason** together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.  
(KJV)

"'Come now, let us settle the matter,' saith the Lord..."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **Acts 6:2** Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, **It is not reason** that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.  
(KJV)

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"So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.'"  
(NIV, 2010)

- **2 Timothy 2:15 Study** to shew **thyself approved** unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.  
(KJV)

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved..."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **2 Timothy 1:7** For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a **sound mind**.  
(KJV)

"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **Ephesians 1:18** The **eyes of your understanding** being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,  
(KJV)

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened..."  
(NIV, 2010)

...your reasonable **service**...

*Service* is what a *servant* does:

**Ephesians 6:5 Servants**, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;  
6 Not with **eyeservice**, as menpleasers; but as the **servants of Christ**, doing the will of God from the heart;  
7 With good will **doing service**, as to the Lord, and not to men:

There is a teaching today that Christians are not *servants* of God. They want to believe that the *evil servant*, who is disciplined at the Lord's return in Matthew 24, is a lost Jew.

New versions, again, remove *reasonable service* from this verse:

"...spiritual act of worship..."  
(NIV)

"...true and proper worship..."  
(NIV, 2010)

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**Proverbs 24:21** My son, fear thou the LORD and the king: and **meddle not with them that are given to change:**

12:2 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.

Proving something implies absolute truth. And in this final, antichrist age of hippie Buddhism, and relativism, *proof* is "not relevant." Therefore, one again, this word must be removed by modern translators:

"...test and **approve** what God's will is..."  
(NIV, 2010)

In the same manner, notice the *infallible proofs* of Acts 1, and other verses:

- **Acts 1:3** To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by **many infallible proofs**, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:  
(KJV)

"...gave many convincing proofs that he was alive..."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **Ephesians 5:10 Proving** what is acceptable unto the Lord.  
(KJV)

"...and find out what pleases the Lord."  
(NIV, 2010)

- **1 Thessalonians 5:21 Prove** all things; hold fast that which is good.  
(KJV)

"but test them all; hold on to what is good."  
(NIV, 2010)

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye **transformed**...

The claim is often made that the KJV uses archaic words that people cannot understand. Yet, the word *transformed* here (often changed in new versions), is used for a popular Hasbro toy line called *Transformers* (with movies, etc.)! Apparently, these words are perfectly understandable when used to indoctrinate children in new world order, occult ideas!

2 And be not **conformed** to this world: but be ye **transformed**...

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Conform:

"[L., form.] Made to resemble; assuming the same form; like; resembling...To make like, in external appearance; to reduce to a like shape, or form, with something else...to reduce to a likeness or correspondence in manners, opinions or moral qualities...To comply with or yield to; to live or act according to; as, to conform to the fashion or to custom."

(Webster's, 1828)

**Philippians 3:10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made **conformable** unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

**Romans 8:29** 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.

*Con* means *with*. Therefore, *con-form* means *with form*, or *formed with*: "Be not *formed with* this world."

*Trans* means *across, over, beyond*. That is, to change from one place or state, to another:

**Hebrews 11:5** By faith Enoch was **translated** that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had **translated** him: for before his **translation** he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

**Genesis 5:24** And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; **for God took him**.

**2 Samuel 3:10** To **translate** the kingdom from the house of Saul, and to set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah...

We see this root in words like *trans-portion*, *trans-Atlantic*, etc.

God is teaching us:

"Don't be formed with the pattern of this world. But be taken from this state, to another state, by the renewing of your mind."

Why do our minds need to be renewed? Because they were in darkness:

**2 Corinthians 4:4** In whom the god of this world hath **blinded the minds** of them which believe not...

**Colossians 1:21** And you, that were **sometime alienated and enemies in your mind** by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled

**Ephesians 4:17** This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, **in the vanity of their mind**,

18 **Having the understanding darkened**, being alienated from the life of God through the **ignorance** that is

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in them, because of the **blindness of their heart**:

**Ephesians 4:23** And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

If we do not have our minds renewed, we will be deceived about the will of God:

**John 16:1** These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.

2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will **think that he doeth God service**.

In other words, our transformation should not be merely superficial or external. It must come from the heart or mind, *as a totally new way of thinking!* Our state of our mind or thoughts, determines what we become, etc.:

**Proverbs 23:6** Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats:  
7 For **as he thinketh in his heart, so is he**: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

Notice, a mere outward transforming or conforming is not the true man (or his real character):

**Psalms 12:2** They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with **a double heart** do they speak.

Ungodly men can sometimes appear outwardly in a righteous form:

**2 Corinthians 11:13** For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, **transforming themselves** into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is **transformed** into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if **his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works.

Therefore, the goal is not to merely change some of our outward behavior or appearance. We must change our whole mind-frame or thinking:

**Hebrews 11:6** But **without faith it is impossible to please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

13 These all died **in faith**, not having received the promises, but **having seen them** afar off, and were **persuaded of them**, and **embraced them**, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15 And truly, **if they had been mindful** of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16 But now they **desire a better** country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

**Hebrews 10:22** Let us draw near with a **true heart** in full assurance of faith...

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**Luke 8:15** But that on the good ground are they, which in an **honest and good heart**, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

**Ephesians 6:6** Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, **doing the will of God from the heart**;

**Proverbs 23:26** My son, **give me thine heart**, and let thine eyes observe my ways.  
27 For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit.

That is, be ye transformed by the renewing of your minds. Hear God, and agree with God, and believe that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him, through obedience. Desire His ways, and His blessings. Hate what He hates; abhors what He abhors; love what He loves:

**2 Chronicles 15:12** And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers **with all their heart and with all their soul**;

15 And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and **sought him with their whole desire**; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

Outward conformation, without the right motives and intents/thoughts of the heart, is shallow and hypocritical. Like Lot's wife, the man who is looking back is not fit for the kingdom of God (Luke 17:32, 9:62).

However, a so-called inward agreement with God's truth, without outward obedience, is self-deception:

**James 1:22** But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

**Mark 12:30** And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and **with all thy strength**: this is the first commandment.

**1 Corinthians 6:20** For ye are bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body, and in your spirit**, which are God's.

**2 Corinthians 6:17** Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting** holiness in the fear of God.