

## **Romans 12**

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect (Romans 12:1-3).*

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**Here is 'the righteousness of God' at work, transforming, renewing, and shaping his beloved by his grace.**

**'...by the mercies of God...'**

- 'Mercy,' by definition is something we don't deserve!
  - What mercy?
    - o God's sovereign purpose in calling and election (Cf. 9:15 & 11:30-32)
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**The 'instruction' of the grace of God**

- **...your 'spiritual worship' or 'reasonable service'**
  - o A living sacrifice

God requires nothing more of us for our salvation! Yet, as his beloved children he requires nothing less of us than our whole selves.

- *"For, I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ."*
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## **Fear and guilt... or faith and gratitude...?**

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## **What should these 'living sacrifices' look like?**

- Different to the rest of the world! (not conformed)
- Different to what they were before (transformed, renewed)
  - o Counter-cultural and counter-intuitive

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## **Gifts of Grace...**

- Gifts to use
- Love to show
- Blessings to bestow

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*Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.  
Love one another with brotherly affection.  
Outdo one another in showing honor.  
(Romans 12:9-10)*