

# Sacrificed Bodies and Renewed Minds

Rom. 12:1-2

## Introduction:

- A. These are logical result from the “mercies of God”.
  - 1. The mercies discussed in chapters 1-11, “therefore” (cf. 5:8; 6:17; 8:1; 11:32-36).
  - 2. The mercies demand a complete transformation (metamorphous).
    - a. Body sacrificed to God's service. (cf. 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 9:27).
    - b. Mind renewed and proving (testing in order to approve) God's will. cf. “Try it you will like it”.
- B. These result in good fruits for God:

## Discussion:

### I. A Productive Church.

- A. With members who think soberly about themselves. (v. 3)
  - 1. None with NO functions - not all SAME, but all SOME.
  - 2. None with ALL functions - (cf. I Cor. 12:27-31).
  - 3. Each identifying HIS “gift”: Some natural, some acquired, with opportunity.
- B. With members who fully exercise their functions. (v. 6-8).
  - 1. Major in own ability - few “jack of all trades” (cf. Acts 6:2-4; Ex. 18).
  - 2. Diligently and steadfastly serving. (vs. 11-12).
- C. With members who accept their abilities and limitations.
  - 1. As important as other but no more or less important. (1 Cor. 12:12-25)
  - 2. As one who accepts both his abilities and limitations.
    - a. If qualified for “leadership” accepts appointment as work needing done.
    - b. If not qualified and appointed will serve well in other areas.
- D. With members who are more interested in serving than being honored for service. (cf. 1 Cor. 4:6,7).
  - 1. Do not find “menial” or servants work degrading. (cf. John 13).
  - 2. Prefer honor for others and work for themselves. (12:10-13).

### II. A Proper Conduct.

- A. Toward brethren with pure love and kind affection. (v. 9-10).
  - 1. Love that abhors evil and cleaves to good - not hypocritical mush.
  - 2. Love that is concerned with needs of brethren. (v. 13).
  - 3. Love that identifies with brethren's joys and sorrows. (v. 15).
  - 4. Love that is unconcerned with brethren's status in world. (v. 16).
- B. Toward all men.
  - 1. Hospitable. (v. 13).
  - 2. Humble (v. 16) - Not a “know it all” (cf. 1 Cor. 8:1,2).
  - 3. Honorable. (v. 17 ASV).
  - 4. Peaceful. (v. 18-21).
- C. Toward Rulers (13:1-7).

## Conclusion:

- A. Let us sacrifice our bodies and renew our minds:
  - 1. So this church can be more productive.
  - 2. So this Lord's cause be helped by our proper conduct.
- B. Let us not be conformed to the world but transformed.
- C. Let us do it all so we can hear “well done ... good and faithful servant”.