Offering the Body and Renewing the Mind

Brent Moody · Romans 12:1–2

INTRODUCTION

- But now it's also about expectations and the response that we should have as those who are his people.
- It's really the truths behind them that matter the most.
- The third is the most critical, particularly in Romans 12, 1 and 2, and that is the importance of paying attention to small connecting words in a text.

1 Therefore, by the Mercies of God

Romans 12:1

- When Paul says therefore, what he's saying is everything I've talked about before in chapters one through 11.
- All of this is coming to this moment now where I want to draw you and urge you to live a certain way.
- The way he's going to make this appeal is based on the argumentation he's already used, but then also just the natural reality of God's compassion and God's mercy.
- So you have manifesto clause, here's all the great things I did for you. Resolution clause, now here's how you respond to that.
- So, with all of that in mind, now I'm going to urge you to do some things.

2 Sacrifice Your Body

Romans 12:1; Hebrews 10

- Because of what God has done through Christ, we're called to give our bodies to the Lord.
- We are living sacrifices. So we give our bodies, we give ourselves, and this is a process that lasts our entire life. It is ongoing.
- The word there is where we get our word logical. And the concept here is he's saying this just makes sense.
- With what God has done for you, it makes sense that this would be the response. This is the logical response. It's the logical service.
- Why are we called to give our bodies as a sacrifice, a living and holy and pleasing sacrifice? Well, because we're supposed to be like Jesus. And Jesus gave his body.
- Hebrews 10 talks all about this, a body you've created for me to do your will.

3 Be Transformed by the Renewal of Your Mind

Romans 12:2; Colossians 3

- God really wants body and mind. He wants it all.
- You can't be a sacrifice that's living and ongoing and continual without going through this next part of the process.
- If you're gonna be a living sacrifice, ultimately, you've got to be transformed, and that's not going to happen if you model yourself after this present age.
- Do not model yourself. Don't follow the schematic of the world.
- Transformation is about a continual process of renewal.
- You're putting off the old man and you're putting on the new. That doesn't happen in three and a half seconds.

4 Testing to Discern the Will of God

Colossians 3:15; 1 Peter 1:14

- This is the renewing of the mind as the means of transformation.
- We can't make good judgments without working through that process which takes actions.
- Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body and be thankful.
- If the message of the gospel is grace, the response is gratitude.
- Is it wise? Is it smart? Is it a wise choice based on what I know about Jesus Christ and about God the Father?
- Do not be conformed to your previous passions that you had in ignorance.

THE CHALLENGE

It may be this morning you realize you need Jesus Christ. You know he's the Son of God. But you haven't given your body, you haven't given your life to him yet. And I want to urge you this morning to do that.

MY NOTES