

ROMANS
Our Message to the World
AMEN Bible Study 2015-2016

Living Sacrifice
Romans 12:1-8
March 10, 2016

:1a **I. The motive: gratitude for God's mercy.**

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, ...
cf. Romans 9:16, 23; 11:30, 32

:1b **II. The means: your whole self.**

...to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

cf. Matthew 6:33; Philippians 1:20; 3:7-11

Stott: "No worship is pleasing to God which is purely inward, abstract and mystical; it must express itself in concrete acts of service performed by our bodies."

:2 **III. The mentality: a renewed mind.**

:2a **A. Renounce the world's mentality**

²Do not be conformed to this world,...

cf. Leviticus 18:3; II Kings 17:15; Ezekiel 11:12; Matthew 5:13-16; 6:8; Ephesians 4:17-19

:2b **B. Receive the Lord's mentality**

...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.

cf. Luke 24:45; Romans 8:5, 6; I Corinthians 2:16; II Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:23; Colossians 3:2; I Peter 1:13

:3-8 **IV. The modality: service.**

:3-5 **A. Assess yourself honestly**

:3 **1. Before God**

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

cf. Philippians 2:1-11

:4-5 **2. In community**

³For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

:6-8 **B. Devote yourself fully**

⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his

teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy with cheerfulness;

cf. I Corinthians 12:1-29; Ephesians 4:10-16; I Peter 4:10-11

- Our gifts differ – cf. I Corinthians 12:4-6; 29-30
- Our gifts are apportioned by God – cf. I Corinthians 4:7; 12:7, 11; Ephesians 4:11; I Peter 4:10
- Our gifts are intended to serve and edify others – I Corinthians 12:7; 14:12; Ephesians 4:12; I Peter 4:10
- Our gifts must be developed and deployed – cf. I Corinthians 4:2; I Peter 4:11