



Get It Right!

Romans 12:1-2

Message Notes by Dr. Mark Platt

The book of Romans is kind of the "Reader's Digest Condensed Book" of the essential doctrines of the Christian faith. This God-inspired letter from the Apostle Paul to the church in Romans tells how: **How we are made right with God.** Then, Paul explains the sub-themes of: guilt, grace, justification, salvation, sanctification, predestination, eternal security, and others truths.

With the one word, *“therefore,”* Paul moves to summarize all these God-given *“compassions”* or *“mercies.”* They translate into a new way that Christians are to believe and behave. In these few verses, Paul provides us with three actions that we must take if we are to get things straight in our life with God.

I. Present your body to God

“offer your bodies as a living sacrifice”

1. It is an act of surrender to God

“holy and pleasing to God”

2. It is an act of worship before God

“this is your spiritual act of worship”

II. Program your mind with God

“the renewing of your mind”

1. Refuse conforming to the world

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world”

2. Choose transformation with God

“but be transformed”

III. Prove your purpose for God

“His good, pleasing and perfect will”

1. Learn God’s will

“test”

2. Demonstrate God’s will

“approve”

Your Response:

1. Verse 1 says that worship of God comes as you *“offer your body”* as a *“living sacrifice.”* What does your body have to do with it? How can you offer your body as a *“living sacrifice?”* How does God want you to apply this in your life?
2. What do you think Paul meant by *“the pattern of this world?”* What part of our mainstream culture is shaping people’s minds today? In what ways is the world’s “pattern” contrary to God’s? Use Scripture for your answer.
3. How can you transform your mind? Are there ways you consciously choose not to conform to the world because you are a Christian? If not, why not? If so, what are they? What steps can you take to practice mind renewal and revolutionize your thinking so it is not influenced by the culture of this world?
4. In your current life situation, do you need God’s guidance? According to these verses, how do you find and demonstrate God’s will for your life? What do you need to do to live in the will of God?

Resources:

Renewing Your Mind in a Mindless Age by: James Montgomery Boice
International Critical Commentary: Romans by C.E.B. Cranfield
The Epistle to the Romans by R.C.H. Lenski
Renovation of the Heart by Dallas Willard.