

“Changed To Be A Servant”

All of the information in Romans 1-11 should lead to our transformation as we arrive at Romans 12.

Romans 12 Outline

- I. Compelled To Be A Servant (1)
- II. Changed To Be A Servant (2)
- III. Challenged To Be A Servant (3-8)
- IV. Commaneded To Be A Servant (9-21)

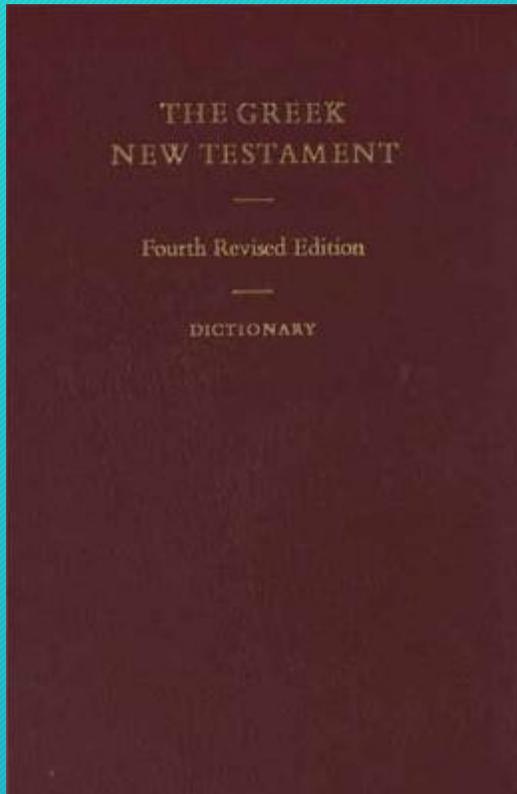
Romans 12:1 Outline

- I. **Compelling Approach**
- II. **Compelling Argument**
- III. **Compelling Appeal**

Comparison

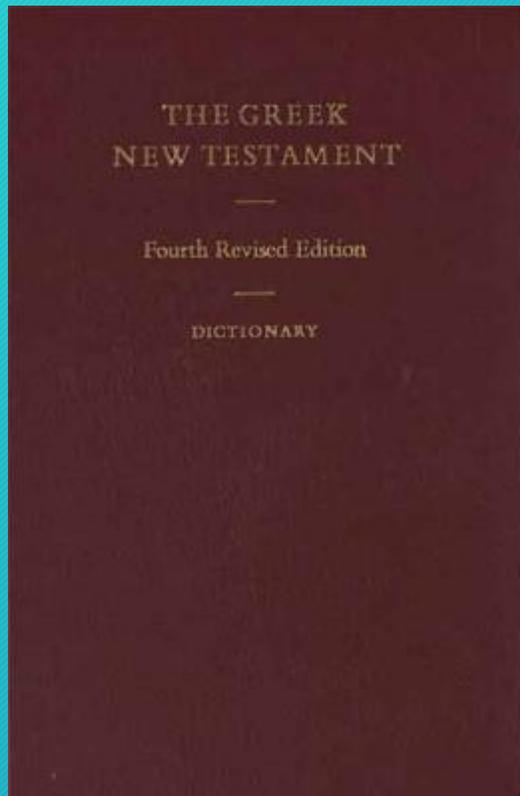
Romans 12:1 tells us primarily what to do and Romans 12:2 tells us primarily how to do it.

Romans 12:1



Παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς
ἀδελφοί διὰ τῶν οἰκτιρμῶν
τοῦ θεοῦ παραστήσαι τὰ
σώματα ὑμῶν θυσίαν
ζῶσαν ἁγίαν εὐάρεστον
τῷ θεῷ τὴν λογικὴν
λατρείαν ὑμῶν

Romans 12:2



καὶ μὴ συσχηματίζεσθε
τῷ αἰῶνι τούτῳ ἀλλὰ
μεταμορφοῦσθε τῇ
ἀνακαινώσει τοῦ νοός
ὑμῶν, εἰς τὸ δοκιμάζειν
ὑμᾶς τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ
θεοῦ τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ
εὐάρεστον καὶ τέλειον

Romans 12:2 - NIV

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 12:2 - NLT

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.”

Romans 12:2 - J. B. Phillips

“Don’t let the world squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.”

Important Shift

Chapter twelve shifts from the indicatives of 1-11 (what is) to imperatives (what ought or needs to be).

I. The Process Of Change (2a)

A. Renunciation Of The World (Passive Imperative)

Conform - Schematic Or Pattern

Greek Words For “World”

1. Cosmos - Order, Adornment
2. Oikoumene - Inhabited Regions
3. Aion - Age, Spirit, Or Philosophy

G. C. Trench

“All that floating mass of thoughts, opinions, maxims, speculations, hopes, impulses, aims, aspirations, at any current time in the world, which constitute a real and effective power which at every moment of our lives we inhale and then again exhale.”

James Stifler

“What makes this world is its spirit, its pursuits, and its domination. Its spirit is selfishness and not love; its pursuits are the pleasing of self and not God; and its domination is from the evil one.”

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him”

1 John 2:15 ESV



Three Observations

- 1. This Is Negative - Do Not**
- 2. It Is Outward - Conformed**
- 3. It Is Moral - Spiritual Implications**

B. Renovation Over The World

Also Is Passive Imperative

- 1. It Is Positive - Be**
- 2. It is Inward - Inside Change**
- 3. It Is Mental - Renewed Mind**

Ephesians 4:17-20

“Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!”



Metamorphosis

Used Of The Transfiguration Of Christ

“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit” (II Corinthians 3:18)

Romans 8:29

“Conformed To The Image Of His Son”

“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me” (Colossians 1:28-29)

Kenneth Wuest

“Stop assuming an outward expression which is patterned after this world, an expression which does not come from, nor is representative of what you are in your inner being as a regenerated child of God.”

II. The Purpose Of Change (2b)

A. Application Of God's Will

“Put To The Proof”

**“Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!”
(II Corinthians 13:5).**

Christ's Example

“Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book” (Hebrews 10:5-7).

B. Appreciation Of God's Will

1. Good - Beneficial; Intrinsically Upright

“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether” (Psalm 19:7-9).

B. Appreciation Of God's Will

2. Pleasing - Spotless; Please Well; Acceptable

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen” (Hebrews 13:20-21).

B. Appreciation Of God's Will

3. Perfect - To Reach An End; Finish

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6)

All Scripture is breathed out by God
and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for
correction, and for training in righteousness,
that the man of God may be competent,
equipped for every good work.

II Timothy 3:16-17



We Are Changed To Be A Servant

The Discovery Of The Will Of God Is As
Much About Being Right As It Is About
Doing Right.

Warren Wiersbe's Words Of Wisdom

