

Romans Chapter 12

2 Tim. 3:16...Notice how DOCTRINE precedes INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

*What we BELIEVE helps to determine how we BEHAVE

*We must translate LEARNING into LIVING

In Romans 1-8 we have the *doctrine* of what God's grace has accomplished for us. In Romans 12 we have *instruction in righteousness* and how we should *behave*. We must first see WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US before WE CAN LIVE FOR HIM.

A. The Christian's **WALK WITH GOD**—Verses 1 & 2

1. Verse 1....**CONSECRATION** to God

*What are some of the “mercies of God” (from chapters 1-8)?

*How do we “present our bodies a living sacrifice” to God? See 1 Cor. 6:19, 20; Prov. 23:26; 2 Cor. 8:5; Rom. 6:12, 13

2. Verse 2....**CONFORMITY** to Christ

*What does it mean to be “conformed to this world?” See Eph. 2:2; 1 John 2:15-17

*What does it mean to be “transformed by the renewing of your mind?” See 2 Cor. 3:18; 4:16

B. The Christian's **WALK WITH OTHER BELIEVERS**—Verses 3-13

1. Verses 3-6a....Members of Christ's body and endued by God with spiritual gifts

*God has given to each member of Christ's body “*the measure of faith*” (vs. 3) and “*gifts differing*” (vs. 6) according to His grace. What does this mean? See 1 Cor. 4:7; 12:4-11; Eph. 4:7-13

2. Verses 6b-8....Various *gifts* from God to believers (this is NOT a complete list, as we saw from 1 Cor. 12:8-10 and Eph. 4:11)

*Describe the gift of:

<PROPHECY...see 1 Cor. 14:3

<MINISTRY...see Acts 6:2, 4; Col. 4:17

<TEACHING...see Acts 11:25, 26; 1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 2:2, 15

<EXHORTATION...see Acts 4:36; 11:22, 23; Heb. 10:25; 13:22

<GIVING...see 2 Cor. 9:1, 7-13

<RULING...see 1 Tim. 5:17; Heb. 13: 7, 17, 24

<MERCY...see Matt. 5:7; 2 Tim. 16-18

3. Verses 9-13...The attitudes we should have towards fellow believers

- *What is “love without dissimulation (hypocrisy)?” See 1 John 3:18
- *What does it mean to “prefer one another?” See Phil. 2:3; Eph. 3:8
- *What is “not slothful in zeal, fervent in spirit?” See Acts 18:25
- *What is “rejoicing in hope?” See Rom. 5:2; 8:19-25; 15:13
- *What is “given to hospitality?” See Heb. 13:8; 3 John 5-8

C. The Christian’s **WALK TOWARDS ALL MEN**—Verses 14-21

1. Verse 14...Give examples from Scripture of this (see Luke 23:34 & Acts 7:59, 60)

2. Verse 15...Can you think of examples of these?

3. Verse 16...What is it to “be of the same mind?” See Phil. 2:2; 1 Cor. 1:10

What is it to “mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate?” See Psalm 131:1 then Phil. 2:4-8

4. Verse 17...What does it mean to “provide things honest in the sight of all men?”
See 2 Cor. 8:21; 1 Pet. 2:12

5. Verse 18...Can you cite any examples of this in Scripture? See Gen. 26:17-22;
1 Cor. 6:6, 7

6. Verse 19...What does it mean to “give place unto wrath?” See Matt. 5:39-42

7. Verse 20...What does it mean to “heap coals of fire on his head?” There are at least
three possible meanings:

*By repaying hostility with kindness the hard heart of one’s enemy will be softened
and result in their conversion.

*The enemy will be ashamed of his hostility by surprising him with unconventional
kindness.

*The enemy that does NOT respond to our kindness will receive more judgment
(pictured by the “coals of fire”—see Psalm 140:9, 10) because of their rejection of
God’s grace towards them through our acts of kindness.

8. Verse 21...What does it mean to “overcome evil with good?” Again, there may be
more than one answer to this question. It may mean:

*The evil that *we (believers) might have responded with* (an “eye for an eye”
mentality) is overcome (by our doing good instead of evil).

*The evil that our enemy might have continued in will stop. See Prov. 15:1

RENEWING OF THE MIND

(Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:16; Eph. 4:22-24; Phil. 2:5-8; Col. 3:8-17; 1 Cor. 2:16)

Our minds need to be transformed from:

- A. Proud to humble (1 Pet. 5:5,6; Psa. 138:6; Phil. 2:5-8)
- B. Wanting to be waited on to wanting to serve others (John 13:12-16)
- C. Pleasing self to pleasing others (Rom. 15:1-3)
- D. Selfish, indifferent, hateful to loving (1 Cor. 13:5; 1 John 3:14-16)
- E. Covetous, getting to giving (Eph. 4:28; Gen. 14:21-23)
- F. Churlish, stingy to merciful, gracious (1 Sam. 25:3; Luke 6:30-36; Col. 3:12)
- G. Gloomy, depressed to joyful (1 Sam. 1:18; 2:1; 1 Thess. 5:14,16; Phil. 4:4)
- H. Unthankful to thankful (2 Tim. 3:2; Rom. 1:21; Psa. 100:4; Col. 3:15)
- I. Anxious, worried, fearful to peaceful, prayerful (Mark 5:33,34; Phil 4:6,7)
- J. Quarrelsome to peaceable (Col. 3:8,13,15; Matt. 5:9)
- K. Impatient to longsuffering (1 Cor. 13:4; Col. 3:12,13)
- L. Angry, bitter to forgiving (Col. 3:8,13; 1 Cor. 13:5)
- M. Controlling to yielding, kind, gentle (3 John 9,10; Phil. 4:5; 2 Cor. 10:1; Col. 3:12)
- N. Apathetic to helpful, good (Luke 10:30-37; Eph. 5:14; 1 Thess. 5:6-11)
- O. Hypocritical to sincere (Matt. 23:13-33; Acts 5:1-10; Rom. 12:9; 2 Cor. 1:12; 1 Pet.1:22)
- P. Unbelieving to trusting, having faith (Mark 9:24; 2 Cor. 5:7; Jas. 1:2-4)
- Q. Deceitful to truthful, honest (Eph. 4:14,15,25)
- R. Macho to meeek, confessing (Num. 12; Luke 23:34; Col. 3:12; Jas. 5:16)
- S. Fearful to bold, courageous (Mark 14:66-72; Acts 2:14-36; 3:13-26; 4:18-20; 5:28-32)
- T. Prejudiced to impartial (John 4:9; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-18; Col. 3:11; Jas. 2:1-5; 3:17)
- U. Out-of-control to temperate (1 Cor. 6:19; 9:27; Eph. 4:26; Jas. 3:2-8)

(Note the relationship between the underlined words and the Fruit of the Spirit in Gal. 5:22,23).