

First Baptist Church, Plymouth NC.
Wednesday Night Bible Study
September 15, 2021

Transforming the Mind. Romans 12:1-2

Romans 12 marks a great transition in this tremendous book of the Bible. The first 11 chapters cover God's plan and working in salvation. It is the explanation of God's good news to sinners and his judgments surrounding that subject.

The word *Therefore* means- Accordingly, consequently, these things being so... In other words, what we are going to read from Romans 12 on, is in the context of what we read in chapters 1-11.

What do you believe has the greatest influence in your life on a day-to-day basis, for good or bad?

AW Tozer writes: It is my opinion that the Christian conception of God current in these middle years of the 20th century is so decadent as to be utterly beneath the dignity of the Most High God and actually to constitute for professed believers something amounting to a moral calamity. All the problems of heaven and earth, though they were to confront us together and at once, would be nothing compared with the overwhelming problem of God: That He is what He is like; and what we as moral being must do about Him.

Psalm 1:1-3- Those who meditate on the word of God, are blessed!

We must guard our minds! 1 Thes. 5:8; Eph. 6:17; Deut. 6:4-9

What does sacrifice mean? Romans 12:1 _____

What are some specific things people sacrifice? _____?

We are to be living sacrifices for the Lord Because of the wonderful gift of eternal life we have received from God. This is our reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 We all should know what it means to conform to someone or something else, What do you think is the "pattern of the world? _____

2 Corinthians 2:14-15. _____

When we come to faith in Jesus, we receive a new nature- a new heart so to speak, that is receptive and soft towards God and His ways. (Ezekiel 36:26-27)

Our minds however still need renovation! They need to be trained and disciplined to think God's thoughts- which in turn will lead to outward obedience to the Lord Jesus. (Romans 7:15-23)

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This transformation of the mind requires the tearing down of old thinking. Sadly, some Christians are not even taught this or know of the battle for the mind. (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

What are some things a Christian might experience because of making these changes in their thought patterns and hence their behaviors?

Once we receive Christ, I believe the first major error in our thinking that must be destroyed is the thought that this life revolves solely around us, those we love and what we want. When life is first and foremost about God. We revolve around Him, not the other way around.

Write on the line below (or isolate in your mind) the one issue in your life that is affecting your thoughts the most right now.

Now meditate and put that issue in the context of Romans 11:33-36

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable his judgments,
and his paths beyond tracing out!
³⁴ *“Who has known the mind of the Lord?*
Or who has been his counselor?”
³⁵ *“Who has ever given to God,*
that God should repay them?
³⁶ *For from him and through him and for him are all things.*
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Reading these verses, how do the truths they reveal challenge or change your thinking about the issue?

What about how you pray about that issue?

What about your emotions about the issue?

What about our attitude toward God when things aren't going the way you expect?

What should be our ultimate goal be in all things?