

Romans 12:1-13

Bimonthly Bible Readings

Star Road Gospel Hall

March 17, 2018

1. **Responsibility to Give Yourself to God (Consecration) [12:1-2]**
 2. **Responsibility to Examine Yourself [12:3]**
 3. **Responsibility to Serve the Members of the Body [12:4-13]**
 - a) Examples of Grace-Empowered Ministries [12:4-8]
 - b) Examples of Gracious Attitudes and Actions [12:9-13]
 4. **Responsibility to the World [12:14-13:14]**
 - a) To Bless Enemies [12:14-21]
 - b) To Obey Government [13:1-7]
 - c) To Love All People [13:8-10]
 - d) To Shun Worldly Indulgence [13:11-14]
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- I. **Our Response to the Mercies of God: Be a Living Sacrifice [12:1-2]**
 - A. Orientation: Giving myself to God (Kohath: consecrated furniture)
 - B. **Our Intelligent, Spiritual Service:**
 1. The Plea: *I appeal to you therefore, brothers* [12:1]
 2. The Basis: *By the mercies of God*
 3. The Challenge:
 - i. Present your bodies for God's Service: *To present your bodies*
 - a. *Living*
 - b. *Holy*
 - c. *Acceptable to God*
 - ii. Renew your mind to embrace God's will [12:2]
 - a. *Do not be conformed to this world*
 - b. *Be transformed by the renewing of your mind* and thereby demonstrate that the will of God is:
 - 1) *Good*
 - 2) *Pleasing*
 - 3) *Perfect*
 - C. **Our Reflection on Ourselves: Be a Sound Thinker [12:3]**
 1. Orientation: Sober self-examination
 2. Paul speaks through the grace given to him
 - i. Selfish thinking [$\mu\eta$ $\acute{\upsilon}\pi\epsilon\rho\omega\rho\omicron\nu\epsilon\acute{\iota}\nu$]: *not to think of himself more highly*
 - ii. Proper thinking: [$\pi\alpha\rho'$ δ $\delta\epsilon\acute{\iota}$ $\omega\rho\omicron\nu\epsilon\acute{\iota}\nu$]: *than he ought to think*
 - iii. Purposeful thinking [$\acute{\alpha}\lambda\lambda\grave{\alpha}$ $\omega\rho\omicron\nu\epsilon\acute{\iota}\nu$]: *but to think*
 - iv. Sane thinking [$\sigma\iota\varsigma$ $\tau\acute{o}$ $\sigma\omega\omega\rho\omicron\nu\epsilon\acute{\iota}\nu$]: *with sober judgment*
 - a. *Each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned*
- II. **Our Relationship to the People of God: Be a Willing Servant [12:4-8]**

A. Orientation: Giving myself to other members (Merari: consecrated boards)

B. Serving Other Members in the Body (Assembly):

1. Analogy of Human Body: *For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function* [12:4]
2. The Assembly: *so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another* [12:5]
3. Seven ministries—ways of doing God’s will by serving others: *having gifts [χαρίσματα] that differ according to the grace [χάρις] given to us* [12:6]
 - i. Foundational: *Prophecy, according to the proportion of the faith*
 - ii. All: *Service, in serving* [12:7]
 - iii. Some: *He who teaches, in teaching*
 - iv. All: *He who exhorts, in exhortation* [12:8]
 - v. All: *He who gives, with liberality*
 - vi. Some: *He who leads, with diligence*
 - vii. All: *He who shows mercy, with cheerfulness*

III. Our Responsibility to Love: Be an Agent of Goodness [12:9-13]

A. Orientation: Taking initiative and acting for the benefit of believers

B. *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good* [12:9]

1. *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor* [12:10]
2. *Not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord* [12:11]
3. *Rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer* [12:12]
4. *Contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality* [12:13]

IV. Our Reactions to Men and their Behavior: Be Gracious [12:14-21]

A. Orientation: Giving myself for the benefit of the world by responding and reacting with grace (Gershon: consecrated curtains)

B. I show grace to all men

1. *Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse* [12:14]
2. *Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep* [12:15]
3. *Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation* [12:16]
4. *Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men* [12:17]

C. I live at peace with all men

1. *If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men* [12:18]
2. *Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay,” says the Lord* [12:19]
3. *“But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heal burning coals on his head”* [12:20]
4. *Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good* [12:21]

Spiritual Gifts

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1 Cor. 12:8-10 (9)	1 Cor. 12:28 (8)	Eph. 4 (4 to 5)	Rom. 12:6-8 (7)	1 Peter 4:10-11 (2)
	Apostles	Apostles		
Prophecy	Prophets	Prophets	Prophecy	
			Service	Serve
Word of Wisdom	Teachers	Evangelists	Teaching	Speak
Word of Knowledge		Shepherd-Teachers		
			Exhorting	
			Giving	
	Administrations		Leading	
			Mercy	
	Helping			
Faith				
Effecting of miracles	Miracles			
Healing	Gifts of healing			
Distinguishing of spirits				
Kinds of tongues	Kinds of tongues			
Interpretation of tongues				

KEY: Passing: *Foundation Gifts, Sign Gifts*; Permanent: Gifts for All, Gifts for Some.

PASSING GIFTS (10)	Foundational Gifts (5)	1. Apostles
		2. Prophets
		3. Word of Wisdom
		4. Word of Knowledge
		5. Discernment of Spirits
	Sign Gifts (5)	1. Faith
		2. Gifts of Healing
		3. Miracles
		4. Tongues
		5. Interpretation of Tongues
PERMANENT GIFTS (10)	For All Believers (5)	1. Serving
		2. Encouraging
		3. Showing Mercy
		4. Help
		5. Giving
	For Some Believers (5)	1. Teacher
		2. Leader
		3. Administrator
		4. Evangelist
		5. Shepherd