



# The Christian's Reasonable Service

*Romans 12:1-21*



# **I. Right Relationship With God**

## A. Become A Living Sacrifice Unto God

- Unblemished animals were the only acceptable sacrifices to God *Lev.22:20-22*

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, **that you present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

*Rom.12*

- The prophet Malachi rebukes Israel for their offering unclean sacrifices *Mal.1:7-8*
- How do Christians offer themselves a living sacrifice to God *Rom.6:3-6*

## A. Become A Living Sacrifice Unto God

## B. The Lord's Transformation Must Occur

- Once one becomes that “living sacrifice” they must continue to mature *Rom.12:2*

2 And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. *Rom.12*

- Metamorphous is inward change, we must change into mature Christians / *Pet.1:13-15*



## **II. Right Relationship With Self**

## **A. One Shouldn't Think Too Highly of Self**

- **When one thinks too highly it hurts him and his work in God's Kingdom *Gal.6:3***
- **Over evaluating self causes one to expect others to give him deference *Jas.1:21-25***
- **God wants us to humbly assess ourselves and give our best for God *1 Cor.12:18-22***
- **Serving God might require our submitting ourselves to difficult tasks *Acts 6:1-5***

**A. One Shouldn't Think Too Highly of Self**

**B. Must Not Under Evaluate Our Abilities**

- Some saints get discouraged fearing their inabilities and future problems *2 Tim.1:6-7*

**6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.**

**7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. *2 Tim.1***

**- Christ will help us really see ourselves and humbly do His will *Phil.2:1-3***

A close-up photograph of a person's hand pointing to a specific line of text in an open book. The book is open to two pages of printed text. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the index finger pointing towards the left page. The background is dark, making the book and hand stand out.

### III. Right Relationship With Other People

## **A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

- **Several concepts mentioned to clearly define sincere love *Rom.12:9-13***

**1 Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good**

**- Prejudices and partiality often defines how we treat others *Acts 6:1-4***

**- We behave based upon what we meditate on throughout life *Phil.4:8***

## **A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

- **Several concepts mentioned to clearly define sincere love *Rom.12:9-13***

**1 Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good**

**2 Be kindly affectionate to one another**

**- Years after Paul rebukes Peter, Peter refers to Paul as “our beloved brother” 2 *Pet.3:15***

## **A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

- **Several concepts mentioned to clearly define sincere love *Rom.12:9-13***

**1 Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good**

**2 Be kindly affectionate to one another**

**3 Distributing to the needs of the saints**

**- Lydia pled with Paul and Barnabas to go home with her *Acts 16:14-15***

## **A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

## **B. Must Express Sympathy and Rejoicing**

- Weeping and rejoicing with others is often very easy but not always *Rom.12:15*
- Difficult to weep with one that ignores the warning of not falling from God *Lk.15:12-25*
- Rejoicing is difficult when others are prospering while you are not *Phil.4:4-7*

**A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

**B. Must Express Sympathy and Rejoicing**

**C. Be A Good Example To All People**

- **Have regard for good things in the sight of all men *Rom.12:17***
  - **Realize that you are representing Jesus and people are watching *2 Sam.12:14***
  - **Prepare for sin by thinking about some scenarios that might cause us to sin!**

**A. Sincere Love For Our Brethren**

**B. Must Express Sympathy and Rejoicing**

**C. Be A Good Example To All People**

**D. Live Peaceably With All Men**

- If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men *Rom.12:18*
  - Leave vengeance to God *Heb.10:30*
  - Repay evil with good *Matt.5:43-45*



# Our Reasonable Service

**11 Not lagging in diligence, **fervent in spirit**,  
serving the Lord;**

**12 Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation,  
**continuing steadfastly in prayer**;**