

Romans 12:9-10

As Members of Christ ...

1. A Mind that Transforms

- a. 12:2 - A renewed mind can transform how we present ourselves. 1 Cor 15:33-34
- b. Rom 6-8 put in our mind already, who we are in Christ and in the Spirit.
- c. Rom 12:4-5 puts on our mind, that we are one of many members together in one body.
 - i. This changes how we think of ourselves in proportion to others that believe (saints)
- d. 12:6-8 - Different gifts were not to honor the gifted, but the others without that gift.
- e. 12:9-13 - These things are not new, but our new mind transforms 'why' we do all things:
 - i. As members of Christ, we do all these things ...

2. 12:9 - Don't Pretend

- a. There are grace gifts that are not proven by miracles, but by choice - 2 Cor 8:1-24
- b. *"Let love be without ..."* - Due to all we know in Rom 1-8, true love known in Christ.
- c. Dissimulation ~*def.* Hiding behind; disguise; pretense; feigning; false presentation.
 - i. What hides may "be genuine", may not be "hypocrisy", but it does conceal.
 - ii. Men-pleasing, appeasing, are insincere (selfish); true love requires truth. Gal 1:10
 - iii. (True politeness / manners is not dissimulation but proper deportment, respect)
 - iv. Love unfeigned/sincerity is how we minister - 2 Cor 4:2, 6:6, 1 Tim 1:3-5
- d. You cannot know a man's faith by his works today, but you can know his love - 1 Cor 8:3,12
- e. If you are a member of Christ's body, then don't make it a disguise, it is not. Don't hide it.

3. 12:9 - Leave and Cleave

- a. *"abhor that which is evil"* - Evil is real, and you are to more than hate it (detest/reject)
- b. This is taught by God throughout the Bible, but knowing Christ we can abhor it - Amos 5:15
- c. Fear of the Lord is to hate evil, but now the love of the Lord Prov 6:16,8:13,16:6, 1Co 16:22
- d. God hates wickedness (false way), if you love God you will too - Psa 101, 119:104
- e. You don't abhor evil by getting to know it more - Rom 16:19, 1 Thess 5:22-23
- f. *"cleaving to that which is good"* - Joined to it as members in a body Ge 2:24, Eph 5:28-32
- g. How can God show love toward sinners? You now know the good grace of God in Christ.
- h. The grace of God increases our judgment of good and evil to include spiritual truth.
- i. As members of Christ, we know no man after their wicked, evil, flesh - 2 Cor 5:16-17

4. 12:10 - Toward One Another

- a. *"kindly affectioned"* ~*def.* disposed to do good to them - Eph 4:31-32
- b. *"one to another"* - As members, we care for their state in Christ - Phil 2:20-21 (ministry)
- c. *"with brotherly love"* - Don't get lost in the Greek. This speaks of our being one in Christ.
 - i. *"ye are taught of God to love"* - 1 Thess 4:9, how? Eph 4:2, 15, 5:1, 1Th 4:10, 1:7-8
 - ii. Love (and good business) bears burdens, serves one another - Gal 5:13, 6:1-2
 - iii. The difference being business done for payment, love done by abundant grace.
- d. *"in honour preferring one another"* as members, rather than honoring yourself - Phil 2:2-3