

# ROMANS 48 – 12:1-2

## *Our Reasonable Service*

### 1. 11:33-36

- a. Paul shifts from talking about dispensational position to practical behavior.
- b. *of him* - Col 1:16; *through him* – He did the work - Col 1:20, 2:3, Phil 4:13;
- c. *to him* – All glory to God - Phil 2:10-11, 1:9-11; 1 Cor 10:31; Rom 16:27
- d. *“all things”* – whether they be the earthly or the heavenly: Israel or Church.

### 2. 12:1

- a. *“I beseech you”* – implore, request, not a commandment; we have liberty
- b. The instructions in these chapters are easier said than done – 1 Cor 9:19, 10:23
- c. *“therefore”* – this statement gets its impetus from Rom 11:36: all things to God.
- d. *“brethren”* – he is no longer talking specifically to the remnant. See Rom 12:3
- e. *“by the mercies of God”* – shown both to Israel and the church: Rom 11:32, Titus 3:5

### 3. Our Reasonable Service

- a. *“ye present your bodies”* – Not your soul, or spirit, but your body – 1 Thess 5:23
- b. Your body was purchased (1 Cor 6:19-20), to be presented in Christ (Col 1:28)...
- c. For this reason: to prove, to perform, God’s will – Rom 12:2, 1 Tim 2:4
- d. *“living sacrifice”* – a sacrifice is dead, only one still lives – Rom 6:11, Col 1:24-27
- e. *“holy, acceptable unto God”* – which you are neither, but in Christ - Eph 1:4-6, 4:24
- f. By reckoning ourselves dead, we prove what is acceptable – Eph 5:8-10, Gal 2:20
- g. *“reasonable service”* – It is not irrational, it is reasoned, he is our life - 2 Cor 5:14-15
- h. Your service to the Lord was reasoned out back in Rom 6:3, 6:19-22, now to do it

### 4. 12:2

- a. What does our reasonable service to the Lord look like? We need instruction.
- b. *“be not conformed to the world”* – You must know the form before nonconforming
- c. This is not a prooftext for avoiding all appearance of good, authority, or tradition
- d. Nonconformity to the world is conformity to Christ - Rom 8:29, 2 Cor 3:18
- e. The world’s course is to pursue your heart’s desires – Eph 2:2-3, Psa 10:3
- f. *“transformed”* –changed to a new creature, not just a different flavor – Col 3:1-11
- g. *“the renewing of your mind”* – The renewing of the mind occurs with right doctrine
- h. Getting the doctrine right with the right heart will produce right behavior
- i. *“that ye may prove”* – That is perform, to do; this is the time to be extreme
- j. (**Note:** Paul is talking to saved people, this is not justification in any way)
- k. Our focus is to show ourselves approved unto God – Rom 14:18, 2Ti 2:15, 1Ti 2:4
- l. *Good* b/c it is of God; *acceptable* b/c it is just; and *perfect* b/c it is your whole life
- m. The *perfect* is not the sanctified ignorance of “God’s perfect plan for my life”
- n. God’s will can be known, and is a dispensational question – 1 Tim 2:4, Eph 1:9
- o. The hard part is doing that which our flesh, heart, and mind may not want.