

## Transformed into Living Sacrifices: Be Transformed Part 1

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Romans 12:1-12:2 *"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. 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."*

### 1. The Foundation of this Transformation

Romans 12:1 *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God..."*

Why should we love others? Because God has loved us!

Why should we serve others? Because God has been our servant!

Why should we forgive others, even our enemies? Because while we were God's enemies, Christ died for us and God forgave us!

### 2. I am Called to be a Living Sacrifice

Romans 12:1 *"that you present your bodies a living sacrifice"*

### 3. I Must Not Conform to the World

Romans 12:2 *"And do not be conformed to this world..."*

### 4. I Must be Transformed to God's Will

Romans 12:2 *"but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

That's what Paul is doing here – urging us to seek to follow God's will.

His will is **GOOD** – because it reflects His character, which is good. Everything that God does is right and for the best. Therefore, when His will is obeyed it is of the highest benefit to all people.

His will is **ACCEPTABLE** (means "well-pleasing") – when we obey it pleases God, yes! But when we obey it also pleases us! As the Psalmist said,

*“You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” Ps 16:11*

His will is **PERFECT** - His will is perfect because it covers every situation. There is no decision that you will ever have to make in your life that God’s will, revealed in scripture, cannot provide guidance upon. His will is perfect, because by it we are established in a relationship with Him forever. “The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.” (Ps 19:7)

### Questions:

1. When Paul says in verse 1, “I beseech you therefore...”, what is the “therefore” there for? What has Paul already covered in the first 11 chapters?
2. In what ways are we not to be “conformed” or patterned after this world? What does this mean?
3. How are we to be transformed? What is the promise here given if we are transformed this way?

**Prayer:** *“Father, may my life bring you honour and glory no matter what. I agree that, in light of Your great mercies and grace, it is reasonable for me to present myself a living sacrifice to you. I lay down my rights, ambitions and goals, and as for your perfect will to be done through me. May people see you in me every day. Help me to recognize when I am being patterned after the world, and consciously seek to transform my mind through Your Holy Word. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*