

TITLE AND NUMBER: 147. A living sacrifice



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Romans 12:1-2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

LOOKING FURTHER: Ephesians 4:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:20; John 14:6; Matthew 11:28

What does this Bible passage tell us?

While this week's passage is quite short, it contains some very important principles:

1. Our forgiveness and salvation are because of God's mercy. (v1)
2. We have a responsibility to live our lives in a Godly way which pleases Him. This is worship.
3. We therefore do not follow a worldly lifestyle because our attitude and behaviour follow God's way. We can have a totally different way of thinking. The Bible calls this the 'renewing of our mind.' (v2a)
4. We have the opportunity to know, and therefore follow, God's will – which is always best. (v2b)

In the light of all this, we can have hope. However, nowadays many people do not have hope and are eager to have their own way and not God's. Because of this, many people are confused, anxious and wondering what is the correct path to follow.

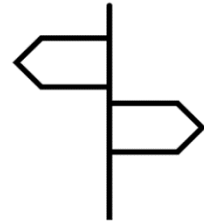
There are many scriptures which can help individuals to find the way forward. For example, 'Jesus answered, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me."' (John 14:6) And, "'Come to me you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.'" (Matthew 11:28)

This passage in Romans encourages us to be a living sacrifice for God. This means that we lay down our own desires and way of living and use our strengths and abilities to put our faith into action.

Reflections:

- Always be grateful for God's grace to you. What could you be grateful to God for today?
- God desires and enjoys our praise and worship. What can you do to develop your act of worship to God?
- God, by His Spirit, is always willing to teach us. Ask Him what He wants to teach you today.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

