

The Lordship of Jesus Christ – Part 1

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I. Introductory material.

II. Romans 12.

A. Verse 1.

1. Speaker's decision to leave the air force.

a. There is more to commitment than availability.

b. To serve God where you are, what must God do in your life?

2. Paul urges by the mercies of God.

a. In the context the readers would have understood what the free mercy of God was.

b. As we think of what God has done in our lives, it should touch our hearts.

3. Spiritual or reasonable service of worship.

a. God wants a holy life - he is not interested in just our bodies.

b. It is not what you do for God that is worship - it is your giving of yourself to God.

c. God wants to change your life; we must not lose God's emphasis for a holy life in our motives, actions, and living.

d. Only God can make you holy, but one of the greatest blocks to a holy life is sin.

4. Present.

a. In the aorist tense. This means that it is a point in time.

5. Sacrifice.

a. In the Old Testament it was the killing of an animal.

b. Jesus died for us in the New Testament.

c. Here he is asking for a living sacrifice—he is not asking us to die.

d. There are many things that we are called to sacrifice.

1. Example of a student who put grades second to his service for the Lord.

2. Would you lay your career and reputation on the line for Jesus Christ?

B. Verse 2 - conditions of the server.

1. Speaks about conformity, being transformed, and understanding God's will.

2. Conformity.

a. We often let the world set our standards.

1. Materialism.

2. Debauchery.

b. Four tests of being conformed to the world.

1. What do you talk about most of the time?

2. What occupies your mind?

3. What is your heart tied to?

4. What is your vision?

c. Our tolerance for sin gets higher and higher.

d. The key is conformity.

1. This means that it comes over and over again in the past.

2. The Word washes, cleanses, and transforms our minds and hearts.

C. Verse 3 - the criterion for service.

1. The criterion is that you have a proper understanding of yourself and that there is humility.

2. There is always a measure of faith.

3. You ought to have sound judgment.

a. There is no greater trap than religious sensuality.

b. Christ is in our everyday moments.

c. Beware of spiritual lust - we must learn to live by raw faith.

D. Verses 4-5.

1. There must be unity in the body.

E. Verses 6-8.

1. What we do, God wants us to do well.

2. This all has to do with service.

- a. Giving to others.

F. Verses 9-16 - the character of the server.

1. Only one thing remains—character.

2. Letting love be without hypocrisy is paired with abhorring what is evil.

3. Give preference to the other person.

- a. The opposite is competition.

- b. We get leadership by proud competitive rivalry or by humble service.

- c. There is one person that is very difficult to love - those with authority over you.

- d. When we are turned inward, all we see is the garbage in our life anyway.

4. Do not be wise in your own eyes.

II. Steps to service.

A. The holiness of life.

B. Present yourself - a verbal and heart act before God.

C. Know the concerns of the world.

1. The only way that the world can be free is through God and through Jesus.

2. We fail to understand where the rest of the world is.

3. The US is one of the few nations with the economic base to send missionaries.

D. Know your gifts and how you are built.

E. You need training or preparation.

F. You need to be called to whatever God is doing.

G. You need to go.

III. Conclusion.

Application questions.

1. How did you fair on the four tests of worldliness? What does conformity mean and how can it be applied to every day life?

2. The speaker asks if there is an area of your character that God is trying to get your attention with. What area stands out to you? Share this concern with others.

3. Pick one of the steps of service to focus on. Which one is standing out to you? What steps will you take to make this a reality?
