

Romans 12:1-2 — 1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

THE HOLY SPIRIT DRIVES US TO STUDY GOD'S WORD! THE HOLY SPIRIT DRIVES US TO PRAY! THE HOLY SPIRIT DRIVES US TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL CHURCH WITH OUR PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PRESENCE. GIVING! THE HOLY SPIRIT DRIVES US TO **SERVE!**

LET'S TURN NOW TO COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 2, VERSE 1

- BY HAVING BEEN KNIT TOGETHER: συμβιβάζω
- To cause to come together, to bring together.
- (I) To join or knit together, unite, figuratively of Christians as parts of Christ's spiritual body, the Church, in the pass. (Eph. 4:16; Col. 2:2, 19).
- TO PUT TOGETHER DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES AND PEOPLE TO BECOME ONE.

UNDERSTANDING: σύνεσις

• the faculty of comprehension, intelligence, acuteness, shrewdness

 The word denotes the ability to understand concepts and see relationships between them.

- Colossians 2:2
- 2 ἵνα παρακληθῶσιν αἱ καρδίαι αὐτῶν συμβιβασθέντες ἐν ἀγάπῃ καὶ εἰς πᾶν πλοῦτος τῆς πληροφορίας τῆς συνέσεως, εἰς ἐπίγνωσιν τοῦ μυστηρίου τοῦ θεοῦ, Χριστοῦ,

• THAT WHICH TRANSCENDS NORMAL UNDERSTANDING!!!

- "THE MYSTERY OF GOD CHRIST IN WHOM (WHICH) ARE HIDDEN ALL THE TREASURES OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE."
- THE MYSTERY IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT THAN GOD OR CHRIST. THEY ARE THE SOURCE OF THE MYSTERY; THEY ARE NOT THE MYSTERY.

 COL. 2, VS. 3. "IN THIS MYSTERY OF **SPIRITUAL LOVE WHICH FITS TOGETHER** DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES AND PEOPLE IN THE LOCAL CHURCH TO BECOME ONE, ARE HIDDEN FOR THOSE WHO HAVE EYES TO SEE AND EARS TO HEAR, ALL THE TREASURES OR WEALTH OF WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE; IE, HOW TO WALK IN LOVE BY SIMPLY TRUSTING THE ONE WHO SAVES YOU FROM THE POWER OF SIN AND WHO FORMS **CHRIST IN YOU."**

LOOK TO THE CROSS FOR A GREAT CLUE; VS
6.

- IT IS IN THIS PASSAGE THAT ONE OF THE GREAT MYSTERIES OF GOD AND OF CHRIST IS UNLOCKED.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE ARE TO LIVE THE CHRISTIAN LIFE, HOW TO LOVE AS JESUS LOVED!
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE ARE TRANSFORMED INTO THE IMAGE OF JESUS CHRIST.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE GLORIFY OUR GOD.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE FULFILL OUR DESTINY AS BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE CAN HAVE AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL THREE MEMBERS OF THE GOD HEAD.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE CAN HAVE THE CHARACTER, THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST SHINING OUT FROM OUR SOULS.
- IT IS THE MYSTERY OF HOW WE WALK IN THE SPIRIT OR HOW WE ARE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.

 Colossians 2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

- THEREFORE: ouv markers of result, often implying the conclusion of a process of reasoning
- JUST AS: ὡς IT SHOWS COMPARISON.

- YOU RECEIVED: παραλαμβάνω
- to take into close association, take
- (to oneself),
- •To take to oneself, seize or take into one's
- •possession.

• WALK: περιπατέω

- GREEK MEANING: to go here and there in walking, go about, walk around
- 2 to conduct one's life, comport oneself, behave, live as habit of conduct
- Ephesians 4:1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,

περιπατέω^b; πορεύομαιd: to live or behave in a customary manner, with possible focus upon continuity of action—'to live, to behave, to go about doing.'

- Ephesians 5:8 for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light
- Ephesians 5:15 Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,
- Colossians 1:10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.

- Colossians 2:6 Therefore just as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,
- How did you <u>receive</u> Christ Jesus the Lord?
- By works?
- By simple faith???

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NAS)

- 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;
- 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Titus 3:5-6 (NAS)

- 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
- 6 whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

Acts 16:31 (NAS)

in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

ROM 12:1– Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, (SEGMENT CLAUSE)

to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, (Infinitival Clause)

which is your spiritual service of worship.

(appositional clause)

 LAST THOUGHT OF CHAP. 8, NOTHING CAN EVER SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD... THEREFORE, PAUL URGES US **BECAUSE OF GOD'S MERCY... WHICH WE ARE EXPERIENCING.. TO** PRESENT OUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE.

- LAST THOUGHT OF CHAPTER 11.
- VS. 34.. WE HAVE THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE MIND OF GOD, GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.. ONLY HE AND NOT US IS QUALIFIED TO BE HIS COUNSELOR.. NOT US.
- VS. 35.. WHO HAS EVER PAID GOD IN ADVANCE FOR ANY THING... LIKE.. SAY.. ETERNAL LIFE.. THAT GOD NOW OWES US SOMETHING?
- ANSWER: NO ONE.
- GOD DOES NOT OWE US. WE HAVE ONLY ONE THING OF VALUE WE CAN OFFER GOD: OUR TRUST IN HIM.

- VS. 36. EVERY THING YOU HAVE IS OUT FROM THE SOURCE OF ALL, THE MEANS OF ALL AND ALL THINGS ARE FOR HIM...
- TO HIM BELONGS ALL THE GLORY.. NOT US. AMEN.
- THEREFORE IT ONLY MAKES LOGICAL SENSE FOR US ENTRUST OUR ENTIRE BEING, OUR ENTIRE LIFE TO GOD.

- 1. AFTER REALIZING HOW UNFAITHFUL ISRAEL WAS TO GOD, GOD WAS FAITHFUL TO THEM.
- 2. GOD CUT THE NATURAL OLIVE BRANCHES OFF THE TREE AND GRAFTED THE WILD OLIVE BRANCHES INTO THE TREE.
- 3. IN THE END GOD IS GOING TO RE-GRAFT ISRAEL BACK INTO THE NATURAL TREE AND KEEP EACH AND EVERY PROMISE TO ISRAEL.

- 4. THE NATURAL BRANCHES WERE UNFAITHFUL TO GOD BUT GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL TO THEM.
- 5. THEREFORE AS WE LEARN ABOUT GOD'S TENDER MERCIES TOWARD US, AS WE LEARN OF GOD'S FANTASTIC LOVE TOWARD US, WE SHOULD BE **EXCITED TO DEDICATE OUR ENTIRE** BEING TO HIM. IT JUST MAKES GOOD SENSE.

Romans 11:35 (NASB95) — 35 Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN?

- VS. 34.. WE HAVE THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE MIND OF GOD, GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.. ONLY HE AND NOT US IS QUALIFIED TO BE HIS COUNSELOR.. NOT US.
- VS. 35.. WHO HAS EVER PAID GOD IN ADVANCE FOR ANY THING... LIKE.. SAY.. ETERNAL LIFE.. THAT GOD NOW OWES US SOMETHING?

 GOD DOES NOT OWE US. WE HAVE ONLY ONE THING OF VALUE WE CAN OFFER GOD: OUR TRUST IN HIM.



STAY THIRSTY MY FRIENDS