

Romans 12 (Part 1) :1 Study Notes • Living Sacrifices

Notes from Pastor Paul: I want to make you all aware of an alternate rendering for Romans 12:1 because this might come up in your study. Whereas the ESV speaks of becoming a living sacrifice as “your spiritual act of worship” other translations, such as the NKJV render this as “your reasonable service.” This is a rendering that essentially means the same thing. (The NASB actually says: “your spiritual service of worship” thus encompassing both expressions.) Don’t let this difference in wording side-track you as there is really no difference in meaning.

Read Romans 12:1

Questions about the passage:

- In verse 1 what is the "therefore" there for?
- What does it mean to present our bodies as living sacrifices?
- How is this worshiping God?

Digging Deeper:

Concerning offering ourselves as living sacrifices:

- Read **Romans 6:16** - Paul speaks here of “presenting ourselves” and the result of that action. What is it?
- Explain how presenting ourselves can be either a good thing or a bad thing.
- Read **1 Corinthians 6:20** - What reason does Paul cite for giving ourselves completely to God?

Application questions:

- How has this verse impacted your understanding of what it means to worship God?
- Paul speaks of our “spiritual worship.” What are some aspects of worship that are NOT spiritual that Christians put too much emphasis on?
- In what areas of life do Christians need to better present themselves to God as a living sacrifice?
- What are some practical steps to offering ourselves completely to God?

Spend some time PRAYING that God would enable you to gladly surrender yourself to His lordship.