



WHO ARE YOU, GOD? "What Do You Want Me to Do, God?" Romans 12:1-2

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The person who senses the need to relate to God will, in one way or another, ask God the question, "What am I supposed to be doing?" The apostle Paul outlined the answer in Romans 12:1-2 and then elaborated on it for the rest of the epistle! But we won't today!

I. He Wants Us to Engage in "True Worship."

A. The realities of "true worship."

1. The sacrifice of Christ canceled the need for animal sacrifices.
2. The sacrifice of Christ calls for a sacrificial lifestyle.
 - a. "Offer your bodies"—your entire being.
 - b. "As living sacrifices"—a sacrificial lifestyle.
 - c. "Holy"—set apart for God.
 - d. "Pleasing to God"—bringing Him delight.

B. The reasons for such a step.

1. An intelligent response to the gospel—"therefore."
2. An earnest exhortation from the apostle—"urge."
3. An appropriate appreciation of "God's mercy."
4. An all-embracing relationship with God—"true worship."

II. He Wants Us to Resist Being "Conform[ed] to the Pattern of This World."

- A. This assumes the ability to recognize the distinctives of "this age."
- B. This requires a willingness to reject much that is acceptable in "this age."
- C. This necessitates the enabling in the Spirit to resist the pressures of "this age."

III. He Wants Us to Be "Transformed by the Renewing of [Our] Mind[s]."

- A. If external pressures are to be resisted, internal pressures are to be encouraged.
- B. The internal transformation comes from the renewing of the mind.
- C. This happens when we understand the truth as it is in Christ.
- D. This develops as we increasingly allow our thinking and attitudes to be changed.

IV. He Wants Us to "Be Able to Test and Approve What God's Will Is."

- A. God's will is the yielded life.
- B. God's will is the non-conformed life.
- C. God's will is the transformed life.
- D. God's will is the satisfied life—"good, pleasing, and perfect."

Point to Ponder: Now I know what he wants me to do; the blessing comes in doing it!