

A MIND THAT IS PLEASING TO GOD

ROMANS 12:16

INTRODUCTION:

1. If I want to be pleasing to God, I must think in a certain way. My thoughts must be consistent with Scripture. (Rom. 8.5-7)
2. How do you think about yourself and others?

I. A MINDSET OF LOVE

- A. The concept of love appears four times in our text.
 1. **ROMANS 12.9:** “*love.*” Wanting what is best for others.
 2. **ROMANS 12.10:** “*kindly affectionate.*” Philostorgos: Loving your friends like family and family like friends.
 3. **ROMANS 12.10:** “*brotherly love.*” Philadelphia: Loving your brethren like friends.
 4. **ROMANS 12.13:** “*hospitality.*” Philonexia: Loving strangers like friends.
- B. **ROMANS 12.9:** “*Let love be without hypocrisy.*” How?
 1. **ROMANS 12.9:** “*Abhor what is evil.*”
 2. **ROMANS 12.9:** “*Cling to what is good.*”

II. A MINDSET OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- A. The things that we are not to do.
 1. We are not to lag in diligence. (Rom. 12.10; 1 Tim. 4.15)
 2. We are not to curse. (Rom. 12.13)
 3. We are not to be arrogant. (Rom. 12.16)
 4. We are not to repay evil for evil. (Rom. 12.17)
 5. We are not to avenge ourselves. (Rom. 12.19)
 6. We are no to be overcome by evil. (Rom. 12.21)
- B. The things that we are to do.
 1. We are to prefer one another. (Rom. 12.10)
 2. We are to serve the Lord. (Rom. 12.11; cf. Matt. 25.40)
 3. We are to help others who struggle. (Rom. 12.12,13)
 4. We are to help those who hurt us. (Rom. 12.14-20)
 5. We are to overcome evil with good. (Rom. 12.21)

CONCLUSION: This is what it means to live by faith.

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“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”

-Mark 16.15

October 23, 2022

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

WORSE THAN A FOOL

The term “fool” usually indicates a lack of common sense. It describes someone who lacks judgment and understanding. The two primary Greek words from which “fool” is derived is aphro defined as “*without mind*” and anoetos defined as “*without understanding*” [VINE]. The nature of foolishness is not the inability to learn, but the choice to ignore common sense and good judgment.

Solomon had some harsh words for the fool. A fool tends to rattle on about things he knows nothing about (Prov. 10.8). Although he is wrong, he refuses to listen to instruction and accept correction. (Prov. 17.10). Therefore a fool will soon find himself in a jail cell (Prov. 7.21). His refusal to exercise good judgment makes him dangerous. He is so dangerous that Solomon write, “*Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, rather than a fool in his folly*” (Prov. 17.12).

With such a notorious description of a fool, it is hard to imagine anyone being worse. Yet Solomon describes two kinds of people that are considered worse than a fool. **PROVERBS 26.12:** “*Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.*” **PROVERBS 29.20:** “*Do you see a man hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him.*”

CLP

A MIND THAT IS PLEASING TO GOD

ROMANS 12:2

INTRODUCTION:

1. The way you live begins with the way you think. A life that is pleasing to God requires a proper mindset. (cf. Phil. 2.5; Col. 3.2)
2. There is a connection between our relationship with God and our relationship with one another.

I. A MIND TO SERVE GOD

- A. **ROMANS 12.1:** *“I beseech you therefore, brethren...that you present your bodies a living sacrifice...”*
1. How do you think of your body? We are to think of ourselves a *“living sacrifice.”* We give our all to God.
 2. **VERSE 1:** *“which is your reasonable service.”* Literally, which is logical. It is logical to give everything to God.
- B. How do we offer our bodies as a living sacrifice?
1. By thinking differently than the world. (Rom. 12.2)
 2. By changing ourselves into what God wants us to be. (Rom. 12.2). *“Transform”* -- Metamorphoo
 3. How does this transformation take place? *“by the renewing of the mind”* (Rom. 12.2). It is a mindset.

II. A MIND TO SERVE OTHERS

- A. How are we to see ourselves?
1. Not too highly of ourselves. (Rom. 12.3; 3 John 9-11)
 2. Not too lowly of ourselves. (Rom. 12.3; Ex. 3.11,12)
 3. We are people who have talents. (Rom. 12.3)
 4. We are part of a body in which we are to serve one another. (Rom. 12.4,5; Heb. 10.24,25; Eph. 4.11,16)
- B. Each one has abilities that allow us to contribute to the overall welfare and growth of the church. (Rom. 12.6-8)
1. **PROPHECY:** Speaking on God’s behalf. (Ex. 3.15.16)
 2. **MINISTRY:** Literally, to be a table server.
 3. **TEACHING:** Publically? Privately?
 4. **EXHORTATION:** Like Barnabas. (Acts 4.36; 11.22,23)
 5. **GIVING:** Are you good at giving?
 6. **LEADING:** Some are talented at motivating others.
 7. **SHOWING MERCY:** Is it easy to show that you care?

CONCLUSION: Are you part of the body of Christ?

FACE TO FACE WITH JESUS

When you hear the words “face to face,” what comes to mind? I think about what God said in reference to Moses. In Exodus 33, the inspired commentary tells us that *“the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend”* (Ex. 33.11).

There is a level of friendship and closeness involved with being face to face. You can see each other’s facial expressions. Being face to face with someone is very personal. Perhaps that why it is considered socially polite to look someone in the eyes when you talk to them. Perhaps that is why it easy to miscommunicate with someone through emails, texting, or even phone conversations.

In 1 John 3.2, we find these words: *“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”* If you break down that verse, there are three critical points that we need to remember.

First, we are told that *“now we are the children of God.”* This is not something that become in the future. We are the children of God in this present time. It is similar to what Paul wrote in Romans 8.1: *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.”* Right now at this very moment, we can have confidence of heaven because we are His children.

Second, we are told that *“it has not yet been revealed what we shall be.”* We are curious creatures. We want to know what we do not know. We ask as did those in Corinth, *“How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?”* (1 Cor. 15.35). Yet such information has not yet been revealed. All we know is that we will be given a spiritual body (1 Cor. 15.44). But we do not know anything else about it. However, we know that *“we shall be like Him”* (1 John 3.2). Whatever body we will have, it will be the same kind of body that Jesus has.

Third, we are told that *“we shall see Him as He is.”* That is another way of saying that we will see Him face to face. When we see Jesus face to face, we will see Him in His true form. This implies the personal nature of our relationship with Him. Just as God spoke to Moses face to face as one speaks to a friend, so will we see Jesus face to face as a friend (John 15.14).

The hope of heaven comes with enjoying a life without disease or death (Rev. 21.4). In heaven, we will be blessed seeing our loved ones again (1 Thess. 4.17,18). But more than that, the hope of heaven is the joy of knowing that we will live eternally with the One who is our friend, the One who loved us and saved us – Jesus (Col. 3.1). Today, we live for Jesus (Col. 3.4; Gal. 2.20). In heaven, We will live with Jesus.