

## By the mercies of God

### **Intro:**

Rom 11:33-36

why was Paul so overcome?

Because the Gospel changed everything

<https://www.worshiphousemedia.com/mini-movies/79215/restored>

### **Problem:**

Now what?

Romans 12:1-2 is not only the hinge of the entire letter to the Romans  
it is the hinge between every gospel indicative and every gospel imperative

The significance of this sermon is not so much in what it commands but why?

### **Main Idea:**

Christianity is not about your achievement

Offer your body for His worship

Renew your mind with His Word

Tune your heart to His will

In gratitude

### **Implication:**

Gratitude is reasonable good acceptable and perfect

### **Application:**

Matt 17:2

Gratitude is a preview of heaven

### **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/biblestudies/bible-answers/spirituallife/what-is-true-worship.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/renewing-the-mind.html>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-does-gratitude-motivate>

<http://archive.spurgeon.org/sermons/1763.php>

## By the mercies of God

text:

### Christianity is not about your achievement

Rom. 12:1a I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God,  
Phil 2:12-13 (the mercy of God is the basis of Christian sanctification and service)  
2 Pet 1:3-4 (step one of the Christian life is reliant on His finished work and His sure promises)

### Offer your body for His worship...

Rom 12:1b to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, **holy and acceptable to God**, which is your **spiritual (logikos-rational)** worship.

John 4:19-24 (what does spiritual worship look like)  
Mk 7:5-7 (true worship is more than a song)  
amos 5:21-24 (more than festivals and burnt offerings)  
1 sam 15:10-22 (it is obedience)  
Rom 6:13-19 (it is not giving a sacrifice but being one)  
Col 3:17-4:1 (it is not dying for you wife but living for her - the altar of every day life)

### Renew your mind with His Word...

Rom. 12:2a Do not be conformed to this **world (aoin = age)**, but be **transformed (metamorpheo)** (present middle imperative) by the renewal of your mind,

Col 3:16 (the means of a renewed mind)  
John 17:17 (set apart in truth)  
Eph 4:11-16 (the means of transformation)  
Eph 1:15-23 (renewed mind by the Word)  
2 Tim 3:14-4:5 (not conformed)(the Word is the difference between conformity and transformation)

### Tune your heart to His will...

Rom 12:2b that by **testing** you may discern what is the will of God,  
2 Cor 10:3-5 (the truth demands confrontation - repent = changed mind, mastered by the Word)

### In gratitude

Rom 12:2c what is **good and acceptable**  
1 Th 5:18 (but not a dead offering a living sacrifice of...thanksgiving - this is the motivation of everything)  
Heb 10:11-12 (what offering of ours could be holy and acceptable (12:2b) what offering could be left?  
(Lev 7:1-17 ascribes another offering, an offering of praise and thanksgiving)  
Rom 1:21-22 (lets start with what is not good and acceptable - look where we came from)  
(rom 12:1b -> (our good and acceptable worship is not merely spiritual (logikos) it is **reasonable**)

### As a preview of Heaven

Rom 12:2d and **perfect**.  
Lk 17:11-19 (nine lepers were cleansed but only one was truly complete- c.s.lewis quote)  
Lk 7:36-50 (people walked with Christ, and remained unmoved, the very Christ we will spend eternity worshipping - what were they lacking - gratitude - gratitude transforms us into totally different people  
matt 17:2 (...and here is that word again - transformed = transfigured)  
(we come to the Word to be transformed but what do we find in the Word? The mercies of God... which leads us to the very place Paul came to in this text- the mercies of God (12:1)- and overwhelming gratitude (Rom 11:33-36) that leads to worship in total obedience)  
(this is a preview of perfection, a preview of Heaven)