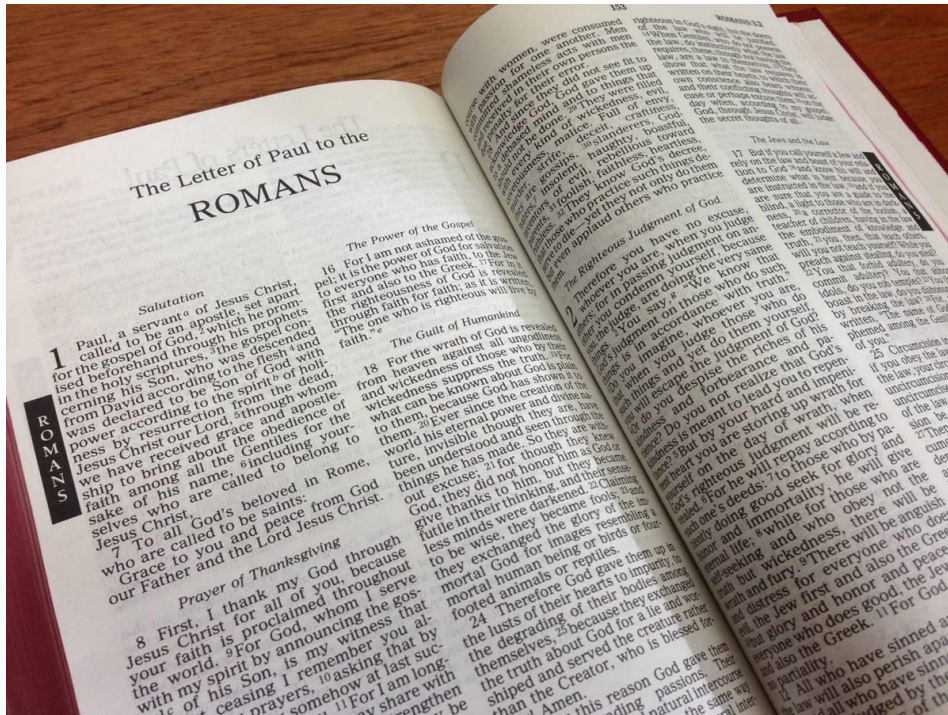


Ichthus Bible School

2019/2020



ROMANS 12

2nd May 2020

Notes by Roger Forster

Romans 12:1-8

Mystery, Mind and Members

Notes

Introduction

v.1

a) 'Therefore' points back to Rom 11:25,26 'mystery' ie: Rom 1-11 and in particular 'All Israel' 11:26 and the new identity of the people of God in 10:13 and new era in God's dealings with the human race and evil and new worship and holiness

b) Also there is introduced a new concept for Roman's epistle that of 'Body' in Christ. Given by Jesus at the Last Supper!
cf. Romans 12:4,5

c) The Mind of God especially, Job 15:7, 41:11

i) Mystery: Matt 13:11; Mark 14:11; Luke 8:10; Rom 11:24,25; 16:25; 1 Cor 2:7;15:51; Eph 1:9, 3:3,4,9; 5:32; 6:19; Col 1:26,27; 2:2,3; 4:3; 2 Thess 2:7; 1 Tim 3:9,16; Rev 1:20; 10:7; 17:5,7 - God's mind (view) on anything revealed

ii) Body: Rom 12:4,5; 1 Cor 6:8,17; 10:7; 11:24-27; 12:12,13,14; Eph 1:23; 2:16; 4:4,12,16; 5:23,28,30; Col 1:18,24; 2:17-19; 3:15; Jas 2:26

- two closely linked concepts
- re: three lists of gifts or manifestations of the Body
 1. Gifts of God Rom 12:6-8
 2. Manifestations of the Spirit 1 Cor 12:1-31
 3. Gifts of Christ Eph 4:8-11

v.1 Mercies of God = 11:30-33 + 11:33-36 + Rom Ch 1-11
urge *parakaleo* - Holy Spirit encouragement

Ritualistic language of offering our bodies (selves). Ritualistic holiness began to be spiritualised in the OT eg: Micah 6:7-8; Ps 50:7-15, these rejections are now replaced by their spiritual counterparts. So the sacrifice here is called forth from believers, the offering is in love, faith and obedience, the new order of worship Christ is establishing. Cf. 1 Peter 2:5. This worship pleases God.

v.1,2 'Acceptable' contains an element of pleasure. We give God pleasure by our worship, despite some people's views of God?! However, Paul does qualify our sacrifice as living (not a dead carcass of an animal), spiritual or *logikan* meaning rational, not as an irrational animal as Greeks and Latin writers who have judged animals as not having rational minds or spirits. Notice how Paul is emphasizing reason (mind) 11:33,34; 11:25; This new kind of sacrifice is also the new basis of holiness eg: 'holy' sacrifice, not a ritualistic holiness but one like God who is

holy viz. v.32; disobedience and faithlessness, unbelief 11:32 and faith 12:3; Heb 13:15, 10:1-7; Psalm 40:6

v.2 Two words in v.2 conformed = metamorphosis
transform = sun schemmatisesthe

nb: togetherness in each word
renewal cf. 2 Cor 4:16; Col 3:10; Eph 4:23; Rom 12:2; Titus 3:5

v.3-8 The gifts of God for each member of Christ's body since we are members of each other v.5

1. prophecy
2. service
3. teaching
4. exhortation
5. giving
6. leading
7. mercy

What does the proportion of faith mean v.6 ?

Body

1. Individual salvation inevitability
2. Politic
3. Primal man – heavenly man gnostic
4. Romans 6:11 – new man second Adam
5. Worship – presence
6. Instrument of activity into the world
7. Shared experience – spirit
8. Experience of community life