

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
BIBLE STUDY
GOD'S UNIQUE PLAN
ROMANS 12

PURPOSE: AS WE OBEY GOD, WE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND WHAT EXACTLY GOD WANTS US TO DO FOR HIM, A PLAN SPECIFICALLY FOR US.

INTRODUCTION: AS WE GROW AND GO THROUGH LIFE, WE START FINDING OUT OUR STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, LIKES, DISLIKES, TASTES, WHAT WE'RE GOOD AT, AND WHAT WE'RE NOT GOOD AT AND SO ON. THINGS START TO UNRAVEL IN OUR LIFE AND WE EVENTUALLY COME TO A CONCLUSION ON HOW WE ARE GONNA LIVE OUR LIVES, WHETHER IT'S A DETAILED PLAN OR A SIMPLE DECISION. EITHER WAY, IT'S OUR PLAN. UNIQUE ONLY TO US, MADE BY OUR DECISIONS. GOD HAS A UNIQUE PLAN FOR US IF WE CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT. A WONDERFUL PLAN SPECIFICALLY FOR US.

PAUL THE APOSTLE HAD NOT YET VISITED THE ROMAN CHURCH WHEN HE WROTE THIS EPISTLE TO THEM. IT IS WRITTEN THAT ROMANS IS A GREAT EXPLANATION OF A CHRISTIAN WALK WITH GOD. INCLUDING HOW TO LIVE FOR GOD AND HIS UNIQUE PLAN FOR OUR LIVES. YOU SEE GOD HAD A UNIQUE PLAN FOR PAUL, BUT PAUL HAD TO BELIEVE IN GOD AND OBEY HIM, AND EVENTUALLY, ANSWER THE CALL THAT GOD HAD FOR HIM, TO WRITE ROMANS 12 FOR US SO THAT WE MAY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE.

1. AFTER READING THIS CHAPTER, HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE A LIVING SACRIFICE AS POINTED OUT IN V.1?
ANSWER- LIVING A HOLY LIFE FOR GOD, BEING A GOOD EXAMPLE, SELFLESS, PUTTING GOD FIRST. WE ARE DEAD TO OURSELVES AS WE PUT OUR FLESHLY DESIRES ON THE

ALTER OF GOD AND LEAVE THEM THERE AND NOT TO ARISE AGAIN, JUST LIKE AN ACTUAL DEAD ANIMAL SARIFICE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT DAYS DURING THE TEMPLE PERIOD. DEAD ANIMALS DON'T GET OFF THE ALTER, JUST AS WE SHOULD NOT.

2. WHAT DOES GOD MEAN BY A RENEWED MIND AND HOW DO WE RENEW IT?

ANSWER- IN V.2, A RENEWED MIND IS A MIND THAT DOES NOT THINK LIKE THE WORLD DOES OR DOES NOT THINK THE WAY IT USED TO BEFORE THE PERSON WAS SAVED. ONCE SALVATION BEGINS, THE PERSON IS BORN AGAIN AND STARTS TO THINK LIKE A CHILD OF GOD ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF GOD WHICH IS HOW WE RENEW OUR MINDS FOR THOSE WHO ARE BELIEVERS. THE WORD OF GOD (THE BIBLE) ALONG WITH THE HOLY GHOST WILL HELP US CHANGE OUR THINKING AND THEN THAT WILL HELP US CHANGE OUR ACTIONS.

3. HOW IS A PERSON CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD?

ANSWER- BY ACTING OUT WHAT WE SEE, WHAT WE'RE TOLD, WHAT WE FEEL. BASICALLY LIVING BY THE FIVE SENSES WE HAVE, WHAT MAKES US FEEL GOOD AND TO LIVE SELFISHLY ULTIMATELY. THE SYSTEM OF THE WORLD GOES BY THIS. IT IS TOTALLY THE OPPOSITE OF GOD'S PRINCIPLES.

4. WHAT DOES "PROVE" MEAN IN V.2 AND IS IT OUR RESPONSIBILITY? NOTE: THE NEW KING JAMES VERSION IS USED.

ANSWER- BASICALLY TO TEST AND APPROVE OF WHAT GOD'S WILL IS FOR US BY LIVING IT OUT AND YES , IT IS UP TO US TO FIND OUT THE WILL OF GOD AND TO LIVE IT. GOD WILL ENABLE US TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE BUT WE MAKE THE DECISION TO DO IT.

5. IN V.5, WHAT IS MEANT BY THINKING SOBERLY AND WHY SHOULD WE THINK THIS WAY? NOTE: THE NEW KING JAMES VERSION IS USED HERE.

ANSWER- TO THINK HONESTLY, CLEARLY, USING SOUND JUDGEMENT ABOUT OURSELVES WITH ALL HUMBLeness. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, THEN PRIDE COMES IN OUR MINDS AND HEARTS ALONG WITH EVERY OTHER SIN AND THEN WE WILL BE DECEIVING OURSELVES HEADING FOR DESTRUCTION OF SOME SORT. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT WHAT WE HAVE IS GIVEN TO US BY GOD.

6. ACCORDING TO V.4 AND 5, WHO IS GOD REFERRING TO AND WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT THEM?

ANSWER- GOD IS TALKING ABOUT US (CHRISTIANS). HE PROCLAIMS THAT WE ARE MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER AND THAT WE NEED EACH OTHER, NO MATTER WHAT THE STATUS OF THE PERSON IS. ONE IS NOT MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE OTHER NO MATTER WHAT OTHERS MIGHT SAY ABOUT US OR HOW WE MAY FEEL ABOUT OURSELVES BECAUSE WE ARE SAVED BY CHRIST' BLOOD, MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD, AND ARE ENABLED BY THE HOLY GHOST TO PERFORM GREAT EXPLOITS FOR GOD AND NOT WE OURSELVES WHO ACTUALLY DO THE MIRACLES.

7. IN REFERENCE TO V.6-8, WHAT ARE WE TO DO WITH THE GIFTS GIVEN TO US BY GRACE?

ANSWER- USE THEM FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST. GOD DOES NOT GIVE US GIFTS, TALENTS, ETC. SO WE CAN SPEND IT ON OURSELVES BUT TO SERVE OTHERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST. CHRIST CAME TO SERVE US, THEREFORE WE SERVE OUT OF GRATITUDE.

8. IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT MAIN VIRTUE OR FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CAN YOU SEE IN V.9-21?

ANSWER- THERE COULD BE MANY THAT CAN BE SEEN BUT FOR ME, I SEE LOVE BEING THE MAIN FRUIT TALKED ABOUT. WITHOUT LOVE, WE ARE BUT LOUD NOISES. LOVE DOES NO HARM TO OUR NEIGHBOR AND GOD IS LOVE. WE MAKE THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONES LIFE WHEN WE SHOW LOVE IN OUR ACTIONS.

9. WOULD IT BE USELESS TO SEEK GOD'S WILL FOR OUR

LIVES IF WE DON'T LOVE THE BRETHREN AND OUR NEIGHBOR?

ANSWER- IN ESSENCE YES BECAUSE GOD'S WORD SAYS THAT IF YOU DON'T LOVE THE BRETHREN, THEN YOU DON'T LOVE GOD AND MORE THAN LIKELY GOD WILL NOT ANSWER YOU IN PRAYER UNTIL YOU START LOVING YOUR BROTHER AND SISTER IN THE LORD AND TREAT YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. AS WE LOVE THE WAY GOD WANTS US TO LOVE, THEN WE GROW IN THE LORD AND THEN GOD WILL REVEAL MORE OF HIS WILL AND UNIQUE PLAN FOR OUR LIVES MORE SPECIFICALLY.

SUMMARY- IN ORDER TO FIND GOD'S UNIQUE PLAN FOR OUR LIVES, WE MUST FIRST BE BORN AGAIN AND BE RENEWED IN OUR MINDS. WE OBEY THE WORD OF GOD AND AS WE OBEY GOD, GOD WILL START TO REVEAL HIS SPECIFIC PLAN FOR OUR LIVES. AS WE WALK WITH GOD, HE BLESSES US WITH SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND OTHER THINGS TO BE USED FOR THE CHURCH (MORE PARTICULARLY CHRISTIANS) FOR GOD'S WILL TO BE DONE ON EARTH AND IN OUR LIVES. EACH MEMBER OF CHRIST HAS AT LEAST ONE GIFT AND EACH MEMBER IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT IN THE CHURCH. GOD'S WORD ALSO SAYS WE ALL NEED EACH OTHER. WE OPERATE AS A WHOLE, NOT LIKE AN ISLAND. WE MUST REMEMBER TO FOLLOW GOD ACCORDING TO HIS WORD AND AS WE DO THIS, GOD WILL FULLFIL HIS PLAN FOR OUR LIVES AND THEN WE WILL SENSE CONTENTMENT INSIDE. SO TELL SOMEONE ABOUT JESUS AND WHAT HE HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE. GOD WANTS TO USE YOU BECAUSE YOU HAVE VALUE AND WITH GOD , ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE. GOD BLESS MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND LETS KEEP EACH OTHER IN PRAYER, THANK YOU.