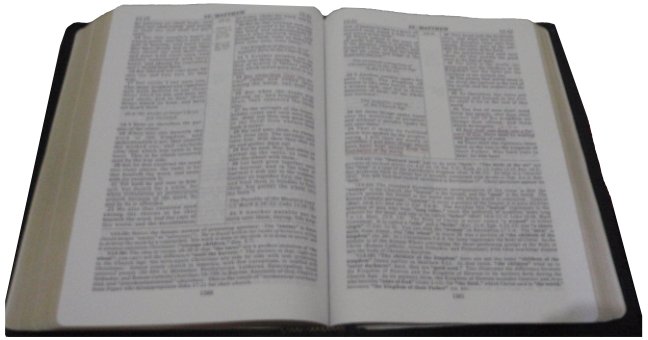
Flooding the World with the Gospel

ArkWork Publications



King James 1611

A Bible Believers Commentary on

Romans
12

Comparing spiritual things with spiritual

The entrance of thy words giveth light
Ps. 119:130

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Romans 12- Christian Surrender and Service

Summary

- Chapter 12 primarily deals with a believers practical surrender, dedication, and purity.

- It deals with principles of practical consecration and Christian character.

- The theme is sacrificial service and sanctification through growth in holiness and purity.

12:1- God's earnest pleas for all believers' bodies

- Brethren, ye= plural

- Based on the mercy God has shown the Gentiles after the Jews unbelief

- 11:20, 30

- God desires the Gentile Christians to respond in a certain way so as to draw the Jews to Jesus Christ as their Messiah

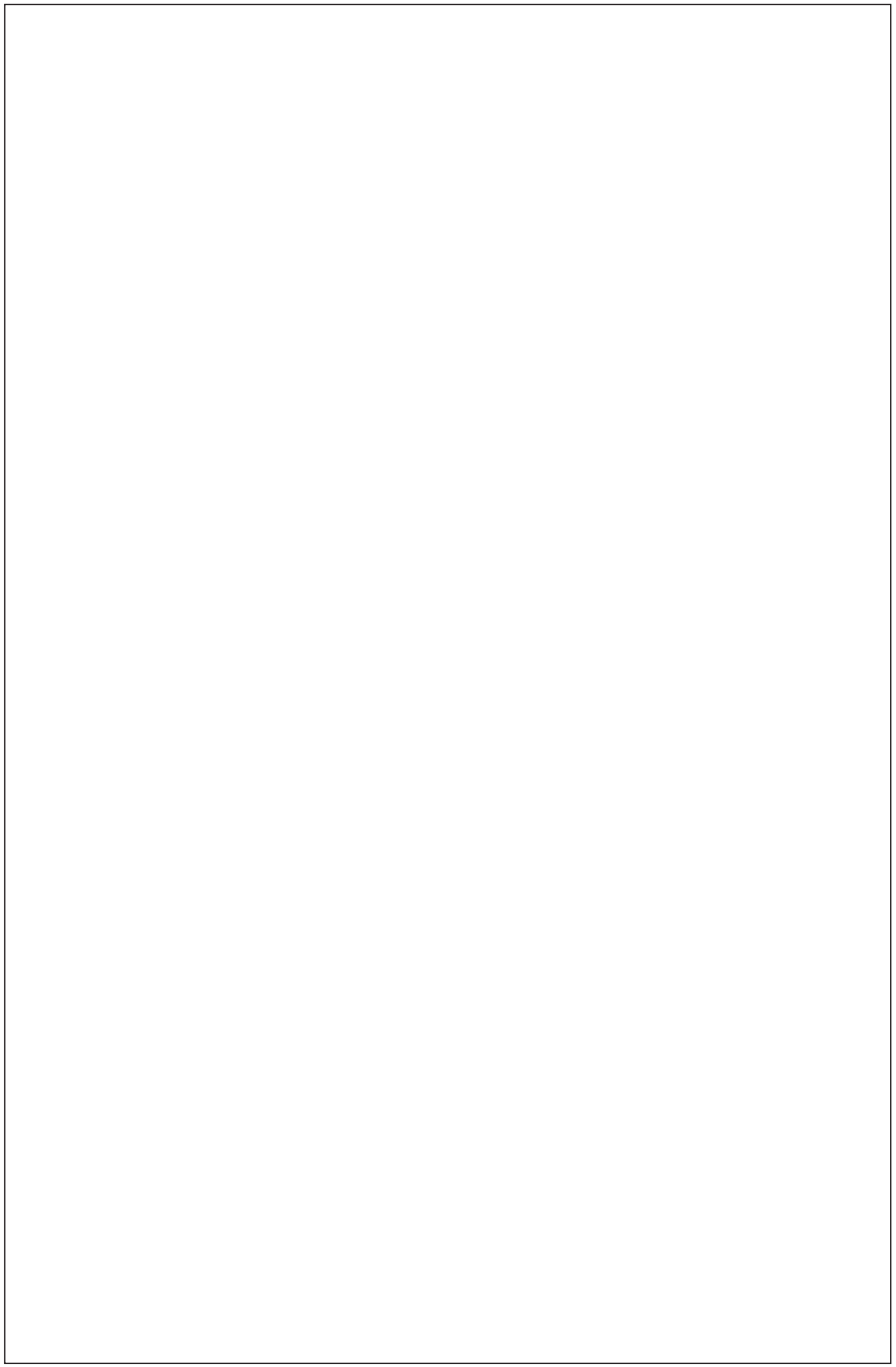
- 11:30-32

- FIRST salvation must be received by grace through faith as a free gift.

- THEN AFTERWARDS believers may present their bodies as a living sacrifice- discipleship and works

- Side note- Beware of the leaven (false doctrine) of Lordship salvation

- Salvation invitations that say:



- Beware of anything that sounds like this

1- Come give your life to Christ

2- Come and surrender your life to Christ

3- Come and make Jesus the Lord of your life

4- Come and give your heart to Christ

5- Come and make your commitment to Christ

6- Come and get right with God

- Which can have as many interpretations as there are people in attendance.

- The result is mass confusion

- 1Cor. 14:33

- Contrast these with correct salvation invitations:

1- Will you simply come as a sinner and freely receive Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour?

2- Would you agree with God that you are a sinner and willing to come and receive the free gift of everlasting life by placing your faith in Jesus Christ?

3- Has the Holy Spirit convicted you of your sinful condition and need for Jesus Christ?

- If so, will you come and trust Jesus Christ and what He did at the cross,

- That is His shed blood, death, burial, and resurrection from the dead.

- Will you trust Him for your salvation.

- Salvation is about receiving the free pardon of sin, receiving the free righteousness of Jesus Christ, and staying out of Hell.

- All people are **incurably self-righteous**, including most Baptist preachers,

- Preaching and believing that we must do something for salvation other than trust Jesus alone by faith.

- God does not use “thou shalt” in this verse.

- By using the word “beseech”, notice that God is acknowledging a believers free will.

12:1- Therefore

- Refers back to **Rom. 11:36**

- Because of Jesus Christ’s preeminence in all things and His worthiness to receive all glory.

- All believers **should willingly** present their bodies to God as a living sacrifice for Him to control and do with as He sees fit.

- Failure to do so means **we are no**t in the will of God

- Believers cannot know the will of God until after we surrender our bodies as a living sacrifice.

- Notice god wants all members of our body in His control, **not our life**.

- God wants us as a living sacrifice

- Rom. 6:11-13- members refers to parts of our bodies.

- Lk. 20:47

- Many stripes

-Lk. 1243-48

- More tolerable is used 6 times in KJB

- Mt. 10:15; 11:21-24

- Mk. 6:11

- Lk. 10:12-14

- When a believer does good to an enemy who is a believer, he is rewarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

- If he does evil to his enemies, his word is burned up and he suffers loss of reward.

- 1Cor. 3:13-15

12:21- We are in warfare as believers and we are not to be overcome with evil.

- the solution is to overcome evil with good

- Ps. 38:19-20

- Pr. 17:13

- This victory is available to us individual believers

- Mt. 5:43-48

- This is a great way for believers to show they are truly different from the world.

- Heap of coals of fire on his head, in **Ps. 140** the Holy Spirit gives an account of God dealing with His enemies,

- The antichrist will head up a group of nations that will attack Israel at the end of the Tribulation.

- Ps. 140:1,4,5,8,

- Ps. 140:9-10- we find the burning coals represent Hell the pit.

- Num. 16:33

- Isa. 14:15

- The results will be

- Jer. 30:11, 16; 46:28

- Isa. 41:11

- What is the application for believers today?

- When a believer does good to his lost enemies, God uses this to allow the lost person another opportunity to repent of his failure to trust Christ.

- Rom. 2:4

- If he rejects Jesus Christ, his damnation becomes that much more severe.

- Greater damnation- is used 3 times in the KJB

- Mt. 23:14

- Mk. 12:40

- It is a sacrifice to force our fleshly bodies to do what God calls us to do because our flesh never wants to cooperate in doing anything God is asking us to do.

- The sacrifices of our bodies are to be holy (set apart for God) and acceptable unto God.

- These are made acceptable by our relationship to Jesus Christ.

- 1Pet. 2:5

- The good works done by a Christian with the right motive and attitude are counted as acceptable unto god.

- Examples of sacrifices that are acceptable unto God:

- Rom. 14:17-18

- Rom. 15:16

- Eph. 5:8-10

- Ph. 4:14-18

- 1Tim. 2:1-3

- 1Pet. 2:20

- Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices is our **reasonable service.**

- In light of what the Lord has done for us, **anything** God asks of us is reasonable, logical and makes perfect sense.

12:2- Be not conformed to this world; but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

- Being transformed by renewing your mind is a daily change in our thinking.

- This takes place after salvation as the born again believer surrenders their will to God.

12:2- Conformed

- Is only used only one other time in the Bible

- Rom. 8:29

- The 2 verses are opposites and show both sides of being conformed- believers get to choose.

12:2- Transformed

- Is used only two other times in the Bible

- 2Cor. 11:14-15

- Again we see both sides of being transformed.

- If we as believers fail to transform out minds then the old nature prevails

- When we live our Christian lives in the flesh as something we **are not**

- Just like Satan transforms himself into something he **is not** an angel of light

12:2- Renewing of your mind

- This has to do with a continual cleansing of the heart

12:19- Deu. 32:35

- The context of Deu. 32 is apostate Jews yoking up with the Roman Catholic false religious system during the Tribulation.

- Deu. 32:31-44

- Practically, notice **"due time"** in **Deu. 32:35;** we must be patient and allow God to work In the situation.

- God's vengeance on Gentile nations that persecute the Jews.

- Deu. 32:41-43

- God's vengeance in destroying His enemies makes Him happy.

- Ps. 137:7-9

- Deu. 28:63

- Contrast God's vengeance vs. God's desire for man's salvation.

- Eze. 18:32; 33:11

- 2Pet. 3:9

12:20- How believers are to treat their enemies

- Pr. 25:21-22

- First notice in **Pr. 25:22b** that a reward is involved when the believer obeys this verse.

- God will see you through it and give you the victory

- 1Cor. 10:13

- Believers must learn to turn situations completely over to God and be willing to fully accept the outcome God provided

- The Key- is yield first to God's will and desired outcome!

12:19- Believers are not to avenge- to inflict the judgment and and punishment of God upon others.

- God never delegated vengeance to anyone

- Except civil authorities in civil matters

- Rom. 13:4

- We should not confuse "vengeance" with the responsibility we have been given to defend our families.

- Avenge- Is to inflict the deserved or just punishment for sins or wrongs that have been committed.

- That is solely God's business.

- When people get involved in vengeance, it becomes an act of retaliation that is committed with personal malice and bitter resentment.

- It is not the believer's responsibility to settle God's accounts.

12:19- Give place unto wrath

- Let God do His thing, He will repay as He sees fit.

- Ps. 51:10

- It is to regain the daily strength believers need to walk in the Spirit.

- Isa. 40:31

- Isa. 41:1

- It is a daily turning to the Lord and a new start in our spiritual walk.

- Lam. 5:21

- Believers are not to submit to, not to live in harmony with not agree with and not live in accordance with the worlds ways.

- By definition, that means we are being commanded to be different than the world and stick out as a peculiar people and being zealous in our service for the Lord.

- Tit. 2:13-15

- Rom. 12:2- tells us precisely why you cannot tell the difference between Christians and the lost world.

- Believers today are largely living in conformance to the world's ways.

- Many Christians today live carnally; they love the fleshly material things of this world.

- Pleasure, money, status, sports, more than they love God.

- Many Christians today lack Bible knowledge and are not dedicated or sold out to God and serving Him in church.

- Non-conformance to the world will bring about persecution and suffering

- 2Tim. 3:12

- If you confront people about their sin and going to Hell, they will hate you for it.

- 1Jh. 3:13- Marvel not my brethren, if the world hate you.

- Believers who conform to the world are not good witnesses.

- When nobody can see any difference, no persecution comes.

- The modern mega-church movement is toally based on conformity to the world system.

- They do surveys to make sure their programs are seeker sensitive, then they incorporate the world's music, its prosperity gospel, its entertainment, and its fleshly pleasures.

- The church's intended focus on sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ here and around the world has largely gone astray.

- Modernistic churches rarely if ever confront a sinner with his sin and resent the clear unadulterated Gospel of Jesus Christ as the only way of salvation.

- Today, mainstream Christianity has incorporated all the Devil's tactics

  - The lust of the flesh

  - The lust of the eyes

  - The pride of life

- And they think their in God's will in doing so.

- Ph. 4:8

- 1Pet. 2:12-15

- Believers need to pay our bills on time, obey the laws of the land, be upstanding citizens, do more than the minimum that is required or expected so we can have a good testimony.

- Believers ought to surprise others by going the 2nd mile whenever there is opportunity.

12:18- Believers, who have the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives, are commanded here to live peaceably with all men

- This is qualified by 2 conditions

  1- If it is possible

  2- as much as we are able by doing the right thing.

- Both parties must cooperate and want peace before there can be peace.

- You need to have the right attitude

- Eph. 4:32

- As much as we would like to, we cannot control the attitude and actions of another person.

- You must- Trust, depend and rely on God,

- Seek and yield to God's will.

- Faithfully pray for the situation and the other people involved and ask God for the filling of the Holy Spirit in dealing with the situation.

- Believers are not to favor people that can benefit us.

- We are to identify with men of low estate.

- The KJB contrasts “the lowly” with “the proud”

- Ps. 138:6

- Pr. 3:34, 11:2; 16:19

12:16- Be not wise in your own conceits.

- This is telling us never to think we know it all

- Rom. 11:20, 25

- Pr. 3:7; 26:12

12:17-21- How believers are supposed to respond when somebody does us wrong.

- This gives believers the opportunity to show we are very different than the world.

12:17- Believers are to repay evil and be honest in our dealings.

- Lk. 6:27-36

- Believers are not to respond in kind; two wrongs never make a right

- Ps. 34:14- Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

- Believers are to be honest and above reproach.

- 2Cor. 8:21; 13:7

- Christians are right now in Christ and should not conform to, love, or befriend the world.

- 1Jh. 2:15-17

- Jam. 4:4

- 2Cor. 6:14-18- Seperation

- You cannot be transformed by the renewing of your mind **if you are conformed to the world**

- Being transformed is also something you do on a daily basis

- 2Cor. 4:16

- Eph. 4:23-24

- If your mind has not been transformed, you can never know the perfect will of God.

- Christians have been given the mind of Christ

- Rom. 8:5-8

- 1Cor. 3:1-4

- The only place to change the thinking in our minds is through the scriptures.

- The more scripture you know, the more your mind will think like Christ.

12:2- The 3 will’s of God

1 Good will-Thirtyfold - Fruit

2- Acceptable will-Sixtyfold- More Fruit

3- Perfect will- Hundredfold- Much Fruit

- Mt. 13:8, 23

- Mt. 19:29

- Mk. 10:28-31

- Lk. 8:8

- Jh. 15:2,5,8

- Notice that a **full reward** will be received at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

- 2Jh. 1:8

- Be careful about telling other Christians what you think God's will is for their lives, that is between God and them.

- You must use wisdom even in counseling

- Pr. 11:14b, 24:6b

- Doing God's will shows us more of God's will

- Jh. 7:17

- Lk. 16:10

12:3- How should we see ourselves as believers?

- Providing comfort for the sorrowful helps them to feel they are not alone.

- Many times we should not open our mouths and start quoting person a bunch of verses but rather just be there and cry with them.

- Believers should not be covetous but genuinely joyful when something good happens to a person.

- When they get a raise, promotion, a better job, a new car, get married, healing, or some spiritual blessing such as a new ministry or being used by God to win souls.

- The believer's ultimate goal is to win the lost to Jesus Christ and we can accomplish this much better when we identify with the genuine needs of those around us

- 1cor. 9:19-22

12:16- Believers are not to be cliquish

- Jam. 2:2-9

12:16- High things

- A believer is not to focus his life on things esteemed highly by this world high things

- We are to humble ourselves before God and men.

12:16- condescend- come down

- Believers are to condescend to men of low estate.

- Ps. 136:23

- 3 Examples

1- Paul's failure

- Acts 23:1-5

2- Christ success

- Lk. 23:33-34

3- Stephen's success

- Acts 7:54-60

- As William Tyndale was burned at the stake for publishing and distributing the New Testament in English back in the 1500's he prayed,

- Lord open the king of England's eyes"

- As a result, we have the KJ Bible which is about 80% Tyndale's work in the New Testament.

12:15- Believers are to identify with and help others

- Jam. 1:27 (Key: "in their affliction")

- This goes for missionaries and persecuted Christians worldwide.

- It is essential that we get our eyes off of ourselves and keep them on others,

- Seeking to understand what they are going through, pray for them, and help them however we can with whatever resources God has entrusted us with.

- Heb. 13:3

- This verse is the "root cause" of many sins

- Being offended, hurt feelings, family strife, being unfairly treated, not getting what you deserve, getting upset with God, unanswered prayer, depression, critical spirit, dwelling on others sins and not your own, being content as a carnal Christian, lack of burden for lost souls, failure to witness, lack of prayer and Bible study.

- Not being more faithful to God and to your church.

- 1st we must realize that **we are not** deserving of God's gift of grace.

- If you can't see this it guarantees you will think of your self more highly than you ought to think.

- The world says we must first wath out for ourselves, have good self- esteem, a good self-image, and a positive view of ourselves

- This is wrong- wrong

- Rom. 7:18-25

- 12:2- when a believer conforms to this world he will always think of himself more highly than he ought to think.

- Leading to SELFISH PRIDE

- Ps. 10:4

- Pr. 11:2

- Pr. 13:10

- It is not a sin to receive praise from other people, but it is sinful to do whatever you do with the motive of being praised by man

- Pr. 27:2

- Eph. 6:5-9

- It is sinful to give man the praise and glory which rightfully belongs to God

- Act 12:18-23

- Notice the order of Herod's death:

- Smote first (not slew), eaten of worms, gave up the ghost.

- Serving God should be solely for the purpose of glorifying God.

- Mt. 5:16

- Col. 3:22-23

12:3- Think soberly

- To think soberly is to have humility of mind, it is the opposite of thinking highly of yourself.

- Act 20:19

- Col. 3:12-13

- Jam. 4:6, 10

- 1Pet. 5:5-6

- The only other use of "soberly" in the Bible tells us to "live soberly".

- We need to make sure our helpfulness is not going against the will of God.

- We are to be generous and hospitable (friendly and willing to care for visitors and guest)

12:13- Hospitality- is used 3 other times in the KJB

- 1Tim. 3:2

- Tit. 1:7-8

- 1Pet. 4:9

- Hospitality is commanded here and may have some unexpected benefits

- Heb. 13:1-2

12:14- Believers are commanded to bless those who persecute us.

- 12:20

- Mt. 5:44

- Lk. 6:28

- Believers are also supposed to keep their mouths shut and not curse those who persecute us.

- If we violate this, then it's no wonder we don't get the victory we seek over these enemies.

- It's not an easy thing to do, we must walk in the spirit to do it

- Rom. 5:3-4; 8:25: 15:4-5

- 2Cor. 6:1-10

- Jam. 1:3-4

12:12- Continuing instant in prayer

- Be ready to pray instantly, continually, and any given time

- 1Th. 5:17

- Acts 6:4

- Rom. 8:26

- Eph. 6:18

12:13- Believers are to help out the brethren and be hospitable

- Believers are to assist other believers with their genuine needs

- 1Tim. 6:18- This is not a command for the socialistic redistribution of wealth.

- Rom. 15:25-26

- According to the Bible, people have a God given right to starve if they are capable of working and will not work.

- 2Th. 3:10

- While we should help the poor and truly needy who are working and doing what they are supposed to do.

- It is not the church's job nor the government's job to interfere with God's plan.

- Tit. 2:12

12:3- Measure of faith

- God deals us the measure of faith as He sees fit for the purpose of bringing glory to Himself.

- God gives believers the measure needed to succeed in our calling from God.

- 12:6a

12:4-5- One body but with many members

- 1Cor. 12:12-14, 20

- Eph. 4:4-6

- The Body of Christ started at Calvary

- Eph. 2:11-16- A new dispensation of grace

- Jesus Christ is the head of the Body of Christ

- Col. 1:13-18

- The Body of Christ is composed of all born again believers between Calvary and the Rapture.

- Notice the "one body" is not membership in a local church.

- There is no doubt that there are unbelievers who are members of many local churches.

- Being saved in the Church Age and put into the Body Christ has nothing to do with water baptism.

- Rom. 6:3-4

- Rom. 8:9

- Col. 2:10-12

- Gal. 3:27

12:6-8 These are 7 spiritual gifts for service

- These are not sign gifts as in:

- 1Cor. 12:4-11

- Mk. 16:17-18

- Each member has different gifts, as decided by the Holy Spirit.

12:6- The gift of prophecy

- To tell beforehand what is going to happen in the future, It must be consistent with the scriptures.

12:6- According to the proportion of faith

- This is when a believer is fully persuaded based on what the Holy Spirit clearly reveals from the scriptures.

- It would also include praying for understanding and making sure the prophecy does not contradict any scriptures.

12:7- The gift of Ministry

- Is based on serving, such as a waiter who waits on tables, giving careful attention to his service.

- Wait does not mean “tarry” or to stop all activity.

- It is keeping busy in the service that god has called and equipped you to do.

12:11- Fervent is spirit- opposite of slothful

- It is to be “on fire” for Jesus zealous, intense, passionate, sincere, dedicated, earnest; given to excellence.

- It is to be proactive rather than reactive, it is anticipation what needs to be done rather than waiting to be told what to do.

- Fervent- is used 6 other times in the KJB

- Acts 18:24-25

- 2Cor. 7:5-7

- Jam. 5:16

- 1Pet. 4:8

- 2Pet. 3:10, 12

- Believers are to be utterly consumed with serving God.

12:11- Serving the Lord

- This is the focus and result of everything a believer does.

- Col. 3:22-25

12:12- Believers should have a positive outlook

- The believer’s hope is a confident assurance.

- Acts 17:30-31

- Tit. 2:13, 3:7

- Patience comes from a hope that is sure and from troubles that come.

- 1Pet. 1:22

12:10- Affection

- First use shows the believer's first affection is to be God and the house of God

- 1Ch. 28:20-29:3

- Affection in **12:10** relates to relationships with the brethren

- How is this accomplished?

- Honoring the brethren and giving them preference above yourself.

- Gen. 13:5-13- Abraham was the elder and the honor really belonged to him.

- We need to let others have the privilege and let them have the advantage

- Phil. 2:3

12:10- Preferring one another- is to be unselfish

12:11- Three more characteristics of Christian conduct.

12:11- Not slothful

- Used only 2 other times in the KJB

- Jud. 18:9

- Heb. 6:12

- In whatever you do, do not be lazy, complacent, apathetic, lethargic, sluggish, unwilling to exert yourself, not willing to do your very best.

- A good servant is unselfish and knows what pleases God and delights in accomplishing it.

12:7- The gift of teaching

- This includes putting in the time and effort necessary to be properly prepared to teach.

12:8- The gift of exhortation

- This is a type or style of preaching that the Holy Spirit uses to stir up and motivate people to respond to the truth that is preached and to make **real changes** in their lives.

12:8- The gift of giving

- This gift is to be done with simplicity, don't complicate it.

- Don't do it for selfish reasons

- Do it with singleness of mind as it being the right thing to do.

- Do it with the right spirit and with cheerfulness

- 2Cor. 9:6-8

12:8- The gift of ruling- a position of authority

- The gift of ruling should be done **with diligence** in the right spirit and not to benefit self.

- 12:3- Church leaders are to be about God's work, setting a godly example, and helping others grow in a spirit of humility

- 1Pet. 5:1-5

12:8- The gift of showing mercy

- The gift of showing mercy is to forgive others and help others with a good, willing, and cheerful attitude.

- Believers are to be genuinely kind and gracious to others, especially when they least deserve it.

- Zech. 7:8-12

- Eph. 4:32

- Mt. 5:44

- It affected their prayer life

- Zech. 7:13

12:9-21- How to live as a Christian

- Doctrinal context- To provoke the Jews to jealously

12:9- Christian love and sticking to that which is good.

12:9- Without dissimulation

- For a believer's love to be without dissimulation is to be without

- 1- Partiality

- 2- Hypocrisy

- Believers are commanded to first love the Lord thy God about 16 times in the KJB

- Then love your neighbor as yourself, about 8 time in the KJB

- We should also have impartial love to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

- 1Pet. 2:17- Love the brotherhood

- Believers must also love our enemies

- Mt. 5:44

- Rom. 12:14, 20

12:9- Abhor & Cleave

- Believers are to abhor evil and cleave to that which is good.

- Biblically these two terms must then be opposites when discussing evil and good.

- Abhor- Detest, reject, loath, hate, get rid of, cast away evil.

- Ps. 97:10

- Pr. 8:13

- Cleave- is to join with, to cling to, and permanently stick to that which is good.

- Gen. 2:24- First use of cleave in the KJB

- Leave and cleave as in a marriage

12:10- Be kind with brotherly love

- Eph. 4:32

- Jh. 13:34-35; 15:12; 17