

Therefore ...

What God has done motivates us for what we should do.
There were applications in previous chapters but now

Romans Chapter 12

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God--this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

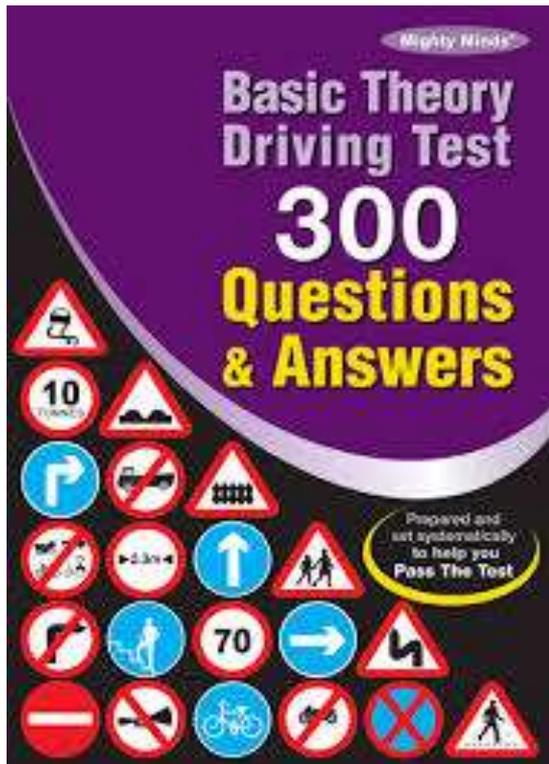
For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. .

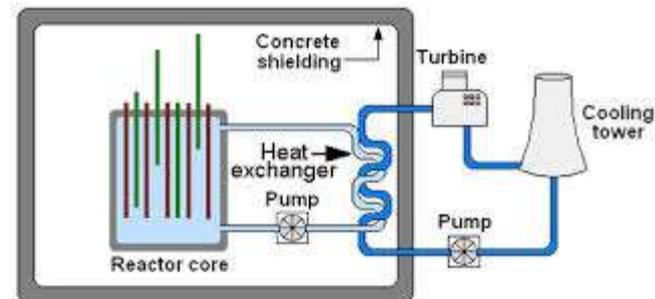
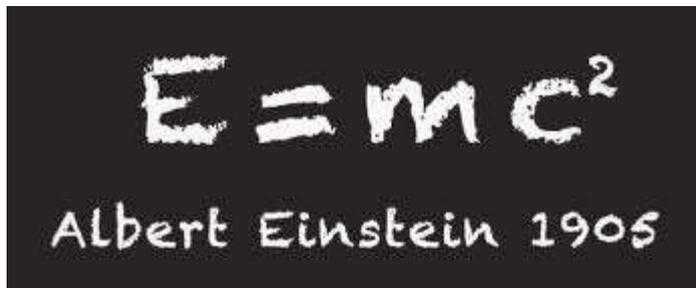
Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



Paul is bringing the values that God gave to Israel to the gentile culture in Rome (a proud, brutal, and debased society)



Theory must be translated into actions affecting our behaviour



Romans 12: 1-2

Temple imagery



Present “yourselves” as LIVING sacrifices

characterised as **holy** (set apart)
well pleasing to God
(doing it His way in motive and deeds)



“worship”

Presenting “yourselves” as
LIVING sacrifices

=

This is your “spiritual” act of
worship

This gives us a working definition of “worship”
In the Hebrew mind = worship and work (service)

Sacred and secular distinctions fall down when brought under
God’s kingship

Romans 12:2



Squeezed into world's mould? Conform to they way they do it?
“When in Rome, do as the Romans do” ?

Cultural sensitivity eg. learn the language!
But leave the world's NOW kind of thinking?
For us:-

***Live in the present
in the light of the future kingdom***

Transformed

How ?

By a renewed mind
(change the way you think -
Scripture/ Holy Spirit/ will)

Why ?

To discern God's good will in order to do, obey (v.2)
This is more than study (to inform mind)
but aims to act on it (eg. Visit to the doctor)



A new way of seeing!

v. 3-8



- 1, New view of self (no room for pride)
- 2, Not just an individual (others involved and affected)
body idea
different individual gifts < - > body of Christ
Find your gift(s) -> serve one another
If you can help --- do it ---- find your strengths
- 3, Love brings the supreme transformation

Love - the supreme transformation



v. 9 - 21

More to do with action than emotions.

The “will” is involved

God’s commands reach your will not your
feelings

Love - the supreme transformation



v. 9 - 21

Characteristics of “love”

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1, commitment & respect | v10 |
| 2, motivated by your relationship with the Lord | v11 |
| 3, perseverance ----- joyful, patient, prayerful | v12 |
| 4, generosity (a “good eye”) | v13 |
| 5, hospitable (whose home is it anyway?) | |
| 6, bless rather than curse (heart and mouth) | v14 |
| 7, compassionate | v15 |
| 8, not high-minded (humble) | v16 |
| 9, making peace | v17-21 |

Therefore ...