

# THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.  
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

## Romans 12:1-8

Media Reference Number SMX-1153

Sunday, February 16, 2025

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### ONE LIFE TO LIVE — FOR NOW — PART 6

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology  
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Spiritual Worship, Godly Service, Dedication, Devotion, Sacrifice, The Will of God.

Before Us is The Reading of Our Passage Today

#### Romans 12:1-8

**I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

**3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.**

**6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

We have set sail on a voyage that will change your life but only if you want your life changed.

**I'm Fascinated by Politicians Who;**  
campaign on all the "life-dynamics" to bring about CHANGE.  
But what they promise, only Jesus Christ can provide.

I'm asking you this question;  
Who or What are you in hot pursuit of right now –  
in your life? Is it the Lord? I Hope it is.

Christian theology teaches the doctrine of prevenient grace, which briefly stated means this,  
that before a man can seek God, God must first have sought the man.

Before a sinful man can think a right thought of God, there must have been a work of enlightenment done within him; imperfect it may be, but a true work nonetheless, and the secret cause of all desiring and seeking and praying which may follow.

We pursue God because, and only because, He has first put an urge within us that spurs us to the pursuit. "No man can come to me," said our Lord, "except the Father which hath sent me draw him," and it is by this very prevenient drawing that God takes from us every vestige of credit for the act of coming. The impulse to pursue God originates with God, but the outworking of that impulse is our following hard after Him; and all the time we are pursuing Him we are already in His hand:

"Thy right hand upholdeth me."

In this divine "upholding" and human "following" there is no contradiction. All is of God, for as Von Huelgel teaches, God is always previous. In practice, however, (that is, where God's previous working meets man's present response) man must pursue God. On our part there must be positive reciprocation if this secret drawing of God is to eventuate in identifiable experience of the Divine. In the warm language of personal feeling this is stated in the 42<sup>nd</sup>. Psalm: "*As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?*" This is deep calling unto deep, and the longing heart will understand it.

The Pursuit of God  
– A.W. Tozer

## ONE LIFE TO LIVE FOR NOW

1.) So Give God Your Attention

vs. 1a

2.) So Give God Your Body

vs. 1b

3.) So Give God Your Will

vs. 2

4.) So Give God Your Love

vs. 3

5.) So Give God Your All

vs. 6-8

**6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

**ONE LIFE TO LIVE FOR NOW  
SO GIVE GOD YOUR ALL**

5a.) Discovering What's Been Given

vs. 6

5b.) Using What's Been Given

vs. 7

5c.) Giving What's Been Given

vs. 8

Discovering + Using + Giving = Life

**ONE LIFE TO LIVE FOR NOW  
SO GIVE GOD YOUR ALL**

5a.) Discovering What's Been Given

vs. 6

Verse 6

**6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith**

First Things First  
In Proportion To Your Faith

Proportion grk: ana'lo'gia

to be in balance with or to be in continuity with. to operate within the set limits and predetermined scope. to be in symphony or equilibrium, to be in a state of uniformity toward a specific cause or outcome. a team or unit.

**Ephesians 2:8-10**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast. **10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

**Philippians 2:13**

For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

Verse 6

**6 Having then gifts differing**

Having

grk: e'cho

to be in possession of, to hold in hand, in the sense of wearing or having been adorned with, to be in possession of = exercise, to work it out, to use, to stretch forth (as into a gathering, to meet a need, to be of help) to literally do the thing and then THE "HAVING" GOES INTO ACTION.

Differing

grk: di'a'pho'ros

being varied, being multi-faceted , being multi-lateral, from a primary to a secondary function, yet in unity.

**1 Peter 4:10-11b**

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ,

The Pre-Amble to the Spiritual Gifts

**1 Corinthians 12:1,4-7**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant, **4** There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

So, What Are The Differing Gifts That Make Us One?

**Ephesians 4:4-7,11-15**

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. **7** But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift, **11** And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, (THE RESULTS ARE THIS) **12** for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; **14** that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, **15** but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head even Christ.

“The Holy Spirit is the Distributor of all spiritual gifts. He as the Conductor appoints, arranges and places His spiritual gifts and callings upon every true child of God within the body of the church family. When He does this - - He will then [excite, prompt, and brood upon you] in your thinking and in your pursuit of God. He will excite your life toward the use of the gift(s) given to you. This often comes after the individual believer is brought through a crisis of faith whereby it is made clear to the gifted - - that it is God the giver who is to receive all the glory for the great things He has done and those things He is about to do.

**ONE LIFE TO LIVE FOR NOW  
SO GIVE GOD YOUR ALL**

**5b.) Using What's Been Given**

**vs. 7**

Verse 7

**7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, *(let us use it)* in teaching**

Knowing & Using your spiritual gift is how you learn more about yourself, about others and most importantly – about Jesus Christ.  
He is always where the action is – so be there too.

**2 Peter 1:2-3**

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, **3** as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

**Try Working Out with Real Weights**  
Cuz dumbbells cannot lift up your wife nor can your Pilates save your husband.

**1 Timothy 4:7b-8**

**7b** Exercise yourself toward godliness. **8** For bodily exercise profits a little, but (exercised) godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

**ONE LIFE TO LIVE FOR NOW  
SO GIVE GOD YOUR ALL**

**5c.) Giving What's Been Given**

**vs. 8**

Verse 8

**8 he who exhorts, (let us use it) in exhortation; he who gives, (let us use it) with liberality; he who leads, (let us use it) with diligence; he who shows mercy, (let us use it) with cheerfulness.**

Note #1

By Using (giving away) What You Have Been Given – You’ll become faithful at it.

Note #2

Others will be serviced by you and their lives will confirm your gifting.

Note #3

Those of the church will verbally confirm your gifting and calling.

## The Full Lists of Gifts Given

Romans 12:6-8+1 Corinthians 12:4-11,28+Ephesians 4:11+1 Peter 4:11 = Church

### From Thayer’s Lexicon

#### PROPHECY

The speaking forth. a discourse emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God, whether by reproving and admonishing the wicked, or comforting the afflicted, or revealing things hidden; especially by foretelling future events.” To prophesy is to declare the divine will of God (Bible), to interpret the purposes of God (Bible), or to make known in any way the truth of God that is designed to influence people. (Bible)

#### SERVING

Also referred to as “ministering,” this gift involves providing service of any kind to the church; it is the broad application of practical help to those in need. “Serving” is a translation of the Greek word diakonian, from which we get the English deacon.

#### TEACHING

This gift involves the analysis and proclamation of the Word of God, (Bible) explaining the meaning, context and application to the hearer’s life. The (Bible) teacher is one who has the unique ability to clearly instruct and communicate knowledge, specifically the doctrines of the faith.

#### ENCOURAGING

Also called “exhortation,” this gift is evident in those who consistently call upon others to heed and follow God’s truth (Bible), which may involve correction or building others up by strengthening weak faith or comforting in trials.

#### GIVING

Gifted givers are those who joyfully share what they have been given by God with others, whether it is financial, material, or the giving of personal time and attention. The giver is concerned for the needs of others and seeks opportunities to share goods, money, and time with them as needs arise

## LEADERSHIP

The gifted leader is one who rules, presides over, or has the management of other people in the church. The word literally means “guide” and carries with it the idea of one who steers a ship. One with the gift of leadership rules with wisdom and grace and exhibits the fruit of the Spirit in life as they lead by observable example.

## MERCY

Closely linked with the gift of encouragement, the gift of mercy is obvious in those who are compassionate toward others who are in distress, showing sympathy and sensitivity coupled with a desire and the resources to lessen their suffering in a kind and cheerful manner.

## WORD OF WISDOM

The fact that this gift is described as the “word” of wisdom indicates that it is one of the speaking gifts. This gift describes someone who can understand and speak forth biblical truth in such a way as to skillfully apply it to any of life’s situations with discernment.

## WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

This is another speaking gift that involves understanding truth with an insight that only comes by revelation from God. Those with the gift of knowledge understand the deep things of God and the mysteries of His Word and yet can convey them simply.

## FAITH

All believers possess faith in some measure because it is one of the gifts of the Spirit bestowed on all who come to Christ in faith. The spiritual gift of faith is exhibited by one with a strong and unshakeable confidence (proportion of faith) in God, His Word, His promises, and the power of prayer to effect miracles.

## HEALING(S)

The divine gifting to pray, to act, to alleviate the pain and suffering of another to pray a prayer of faith in total reliance upon God to do His will according to the Scriptures.

## MIRACULOUS POWERS

Also known as the working of miracles involving supernatural acts that could only be attributed to the power of God. Seen most often in the realm of unreached peoples through missionary activity.

## DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

The unique ability to determine (call out) the true message of God from that of the deceiver, Satan, whose methods include purveying deceptive and erroneous doctrine. This gift of discerning of spirits is given to the church to protect it from satanic infiltrators.

## SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Involving the divine ability to speak in languages previously unknown to the speaker. This gift authenticates the message of the gospel and those who preached it as coming from God. The phrase “diversity of tongues” (KJV) or “different kinds of tongues” effectively eliminates the idea of a “personal prayer language” as being a spiritual gift but rather a tool of prayer for all. Not to be confused with the gift of tongues.

## INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

A person with the gift of interpreting tongues could understand what a tongues-speaker was saying even though he did not know the language that was being spoken. The tongues interpreter would then communicate the message of the tongues-speaker to everyone else, so all could understand.

## HELPS

Those with the gift of helps are those who can aid or render assistance to others in the church with compassion and grace. This has a broad range of possibilities for application. Most importantly, this is the unique ability to identify those who are struggling with doubt, fears, and other spiritual battles; to move toward those in spiritual need with a kind word, an understanding and compassionate demeanor; and to speak scriptural truth that is both convicting and loving. They respond in the moment of need.

### This is Why; Not Being Among Other Believers Could Really Hurt You

#### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

**And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.**

#### **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. **5** There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. **6** And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **7** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: **8** for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, **9** to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, **10** to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **11** But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

#### **1 Corinthians 12:12-26**

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **13** For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. **14** For in fact the body is not one member but many. **15** If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? **16** And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? **17** If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? **18** But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. **19** And if they were all one member, where would the body be? **20** But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. **21** And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." **22** No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. **23** And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unrepresentable parts have greater modesty, **24** but our representable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, **25** that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. **26** And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

## Discovering *my* spiritual gift?

( This is tantamount to the calling that God has placed upon your life. )

God equips the called. Thank God, He does not call the equipped.

**1 Corinthians 1:27-29**

**27** But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; **28** and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, **29** that no flesh should glory in His presence.

## Discovering *my* spiritual gift. What Should You Expect ?

#1

God will bring to your attention a need or a deed that will benefit others.

#2

God will then prompt or nudge you to engage in that need or deed or service.

#3

Next, He will, (and only will He) manifest in you the supernatural ability (gift) to meet the need, deed or the service that benefits the church as a whole.

## It's "Hands On Time" Brothers & Sisters

**2 Timothy 1:6-7**

Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. **7** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

**Acts 13:2-3**

Now as they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "*Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.*" **3** Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went

## We Are Going to Pray Now

*End of Study*

Copyright Real Life with Jack Hibbs © Sunday, February 16, 2025, by Jack Hibbs

no unauthorized reproduction of this content or the rebroadcasting of this material is allowed by law without the expressed written consent of the author.