

Session #46: “SPIRITUAL GIFTS”—Romans 12:3-8

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email - philtwente@att.net
For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column under “Site Map”

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Romans by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and William Newell.

Questions:

- In verse 3, what is being recommended negatively? What positively? Which is easier for you?
- How much of the “spirit of Haman” do you have in you?
- How can you be sure when you’re effectively using the Spiritual gift/s that God has given you?

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 1:18-8:39

THE PROBLEMS OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 9:1-11:36

- THE PRACTICES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 12:1-15:33
- 1A. AS TO LIVING FOR THE LORD - ROMANS 12:1-8 - “therefore” - in the light of all he has said so far!

1B. The MOTIVATION - “by the mercies of God”

2B. The MANNER in which it begins - “that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service”

3B. The MEANS (how does this happen?) by which it is fulfilled in your life - “and be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind”

4B. The MOTIVE for doing it - “that you may prove (find out) what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God”

*Rom 12:3 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.***

5B. The MINDSET that is needed - “not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly...”

1C. Negatively - “not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think” - Greek: *hyperphronein* - to think above - used only here - cf. Rom. 12:16; 1 Cor. 4:7

2C. Positively - “but (Greek: *alla*) to think soberly” - NIV - “sober judgment” or NASB - “sound judgment” Greek: *sophroneo* - used 6 times in NT – the root verb *phroneo* is used 30 times.

AMPLIFIED BIBLE - “not to estimate and think of himself more highly than he ought (not to have an exaggerated opinion of his own importance), but to rate his ability with sober judgment” - Used in Mark 5:15 of the man who was healed of demon possession and was now in his “right mind” - used in 2 Cor. 5:13 of the opposite of being insane – connected with prayer and watching in 1 Pet. 4:7- cf. Phil. 2:5-8 - attitude of humility

6B. The MEASURE of faith we need - “as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith” - “dealt” - Greek: *emerise* - to divide or distribute - used in Heb. 2:4

First we need dedication (12:1); Second we need transformation (12:2); Third we need humility (12:3a); and Fourth we need faith (12:3b)

1C. We need faith in the God Who gives us these gifts

2C. We need faith in the existence of spiritual gifts - The ones listed in the Bible.

3C. We need faith in the power of the Holy Spirit to control the use of our gifts.

4C. We need faith in the purpose of God for our gifts - To edify (mend together) other believers - cf. Eph. 4:11-12; 1 Pet. 4:10-11 – serving - for the building up of the body of Christ!

7B. The MINISTRY of spiritual gifts that reveals it - 4-8

Rom 12:4 For as we have many members in one body, but **all the members do not have the same function,**

Rom 12:5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and **individually members of one another.**

1C. **It involves our Relationship to one another** – 4-5 - cf. 1 Cor. 12

1D. **Differences** - “*all members have not the same function*” - Greek: *praxin* - used 6 times; its root verb *prasso* is used 36 times - refers to **what we do or practice** - **our deeds.**

2D. **Dependency** - “*individually members of another*” - we **need each other’s** gifts – cf. 1 Cor. 12:7 – **Do you really think you need other people? –Learn to depend on others!**

Rom 12:6 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;

2C. **It involves our Receiving of God’s grace** – 6a - Grace gives us what we do not deserve nor can earn or achieve by our own efforts.

3C. **It involves our Respect for the differences in the gifts** - “*differing*” - cf. 1 Cor. 12:4-6

1D. Differences **in the number** of gifts - 1 Cor. 12:4 - but “*the same Spirit*”

2D. Differences **in the way the gifts are used** – 1 Cor. 12:5 - “*the same Lord*”

3D. Differences **in the extent to which the gift affects the lives** of others – 1 Cor. 12:6 - “*the same God*”

4C. **It involves our Recognition of the true nature** of these gifts.

NOTE: There are seven gifts listed here - WHY? - (1) A **sampling** - more could have been included.

(2) A **summary** of all the gifts - the rest fit into these seven or are supportive of them. (3) A **selection** of the gifts which illustrate the point of the passage. (4) A **standard** for church ministry after the NT was completed.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

(1) The Greek preposition *en* is used with all but prophecy

(2) The word “*if*” (Greek: *eite*) is used with the first four but not the last three (if and it is so!).

(3) The definite article “*the*” is used with ministry, teaching, and exhortation - not the other four.

1D. **Prophesying** - meets the spiritual needs of the body - 1 Cor. 14:3-4; 2D. **Ministering** (task oriented) - meets the practical needs of the body. 3D. **Teaching** - meets the intellectual needs of the body. 4D. **Exhorting** (counseling) - meets the emotional needs of the body. 5D. **Giving** - meets the financial needs of the body. 6D. **Ruling** - meets the organizational needs of the body 7D. **Showing mercy** - meets the physical needs of the body

5C. **It involves our Reliance upon the way in which the gifts are to be used.**

1D. There is a **principle** - the control of the Word of God - “*according to the proportion*” (Greek: *analogia*) of the faith”

Rom 12:7 or ministry, **let us use it** in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;

2D. **There is a practice** - “*let us use it*” - Greek preposition *en* used with last six gifts - **whatever gift you have, stick to doing that regularly.**

3D. **There is a pattern to follow** – used with the last three gifts:

Rom 12:8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with **liberality**; he who leads, with **diligence**; he who shows mercy, with **cheerfulness**.

1E. **In giving** - **do it with liberality** - Greek: *haplotes* - NIV says “*generously*”; NASB says *liberality*” - the word is used seven times and is the opposite of the word “*double*” - it refers to being single-minded, not doing it for ulterior motives!

2E. **In ruling** - **do it with diligence** - Greek word *proistamenos* means *to lead*” - **leadership gift** - Greek: *spoude* - used 14 times quick to respond to needs.

3E. **In showing mercy** – **with cheerfulness** - Greek: *hilaroteti* Used of the bright color of gold when cast into a furnace - cf. 2 Cor. 9:7 - **Result of using given Spiritual gifts the way God wants IS maximum effectiveness with minimum weariness!!**

John 17:20-26