

## HOW TO FIND THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOUR LIFE

Text: Romans 12:1,2

*attitude changes with conversion.*

INTRODUCTION: The ultimate goal for the Christian is to do the will of God. When I began preaching the advice was given to me, "Stay in the center of God's will." The most miserable person in this church is the Christian who is outside the center of God's will. Our text tells us that we find and do God's will only through the consecration of our lives to Him.

In the former part of this letter Paul has been dealing with doctrine, and now it turns to the practical portion and binds them together with the conjunction, 'therefore'. Christian living is inseparably connected with Christian believing. Doctrine without practice is dead; practice without doctrine is shallow and superficial.

*Appeal for Consecration*

### I. THERE MUST BE A PRESENTATION

#### Verse 1

1. "Present" means to surrender, to place at the disposal of another. It is a yielding of self to God, for Him to use it as pleases Him.

① It carries with it the idea of a complete or whole sacrifice. A partial sacrifice was unknown and unthinkable to the Jews. Likewise, the whole of the body is to be presented upon the altar of sacrifice. [The mouth may sing His praises, but the feet must walk in His path.]

② The holy fires never came down upon a partial sacrifice, but upon the whole. Likewise, neither do the holy fires of revival and soul-winning flame in the lives of those who are partially surrendered, but upon those who are wholly yielded.

#### 2. We are to Present our Bodies.

Our body is the organ of our actions, and when we present that to God, it means that all our actions are to be directed solely by Him. God does not want scraps. God does not need much of a man, but He needs all there is of him.

3. This is to be a sacrifice--voluntary and self-surrendered. The price of spiritual power is a complete surrender. There can be no substitute for dedication of self to Christ.

*Master word for Christian life*

11- Moody--Young preacher said, "I'd give the world to have your power." Moody: "That is exactly what it cost me, the world."

[How many do you know who are giving their maximum strength for Christ.]

#### 4. The Grounds of this Presentation--*"mercies of God"*

(1) In 11:36, Paul has dealt with the Sovereign ownership of God. This ownership logically requires our submission.





(2) Mercies--plural to denote the abundance of God's saving grace. Paul speaks through them. The mercies of God appeal to us for complete dedication.

*"The love of X constraineth us."*

## II. THERE MUST BE A TRANSFORMATION

### Verse 2a

1. Preceded by a command--"Be not conformed--" Do not take on the shape of the world, age; do not let current times mold your character. Stop assuming an outward expression which is patterned after this world.

(1) Do not live for the age but for eternity. Do not live like worldly people. The age is not the pattern for the Christian life. The Christian must let Christ be his model for living and not the singular age. All people conform either to the Spirit of Christ or to the spirit of the age.

(2) This word refers to the changing customs and styles. The Christian is not to exhaust his spiritual strength on the passing fashions of a sinful age. The Christian is not to sacrifice right living for the latest style. He is not to value custom more than commandments. He is not to prefer "good taste" to good sense. The fashionable person is never spiritual. A fashionable age is not the standard or the goal for Christians, but to be fashioned for the ages.

There is a danger that the Christian may adopt some of the world's ways--"When in Rome live for Christ."

### 2. The Meaning of Transformation-

(1) To be re-shaped--the word is metamorphosis--a caterpillar turning into a butterfly.

(2) It is the same word used of Christ's transfiguration. There He reflected heaven's glory, utterly different from all others. It is the change of appearance of one thing into another--into Christ's likeness, who is the pattern of perfection. Men resemble their gods.

3. Foundation of Transformation--re-newal of the mind; a change of estimates, a new set of views, a new set of convictions--  
"As a man thinketh so is he."

If you want to change your character and conduct, change the deep conviction of your mind. If we really believed what we say we believe...

## III. THEN COMES REVELATION Verse 2b.

1. The will of God known--"Prove"--spiritual discernment.
2. The will of God done
3. The will of God enjoyed--"good and acceptable."