



September 18, 2022

“One with Nothing has Nothing to Lose”

Romans 12:1-2

“Therefore”: The Book of Romans (see the Bible Project: Romans on YouTube)

How the good news concerning the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus

...Reveals God’s righteousness (Chapters 1-4)

...Creates a redefined family of God (Chapter 5-8)

...Fulfills God’s promises to Israel (Chapters 9-11)

...Unifies the redefined family of God (Chapters 12-16)

“By the Mercies of God”

Linked to the mercy over all people in Romans 11:32

That we get to be living sacrifices is an unimaginably good gift

The previous alternative was to be helplessly lost in a disintegrating reality

“Present Your Bodies as Living Sacrifices, Holy and Acceptable Spiritual Worship”

The new family of God can still be identified by a sacrificial system: this of the heart

The metaphor of the burnt offering: wholehearted surrender

Wholehearted: quantity (all of the embodied self) and quality (without blemish): *all me all in*

How can we tell if we are all in at any given point?

Be Transformed, Not Conformed, by the Renewing of Your Mind for Seeing God’s Will

The importance of the mind without falling to Greek dualism

Renewal of mind is found in having the mind of Christ Jesus: Phil 2:5; 1 Cor 2:16 (3:3)

Through imitation and inner saturation

Only from the the vantage of emptying servant will we be able to discern God’s will

The Beloved Community

Being what we want the world to become

Whole hearted surrender posture in self-sacrificial other-centered practice

Fosters a community of courageous generosity: one with nothing has nothing to lose

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Questions for Further Reflection: what fears keep us from declaring a full-on abandonment to Jesus? How can the “emptied” life be an “abundant” life more than an “impoverished” life?