

Romans 12

“So this is where it was all heading!”

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.

Romans 12: 1-2

Keyword 1.

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.

Romans 12: 1

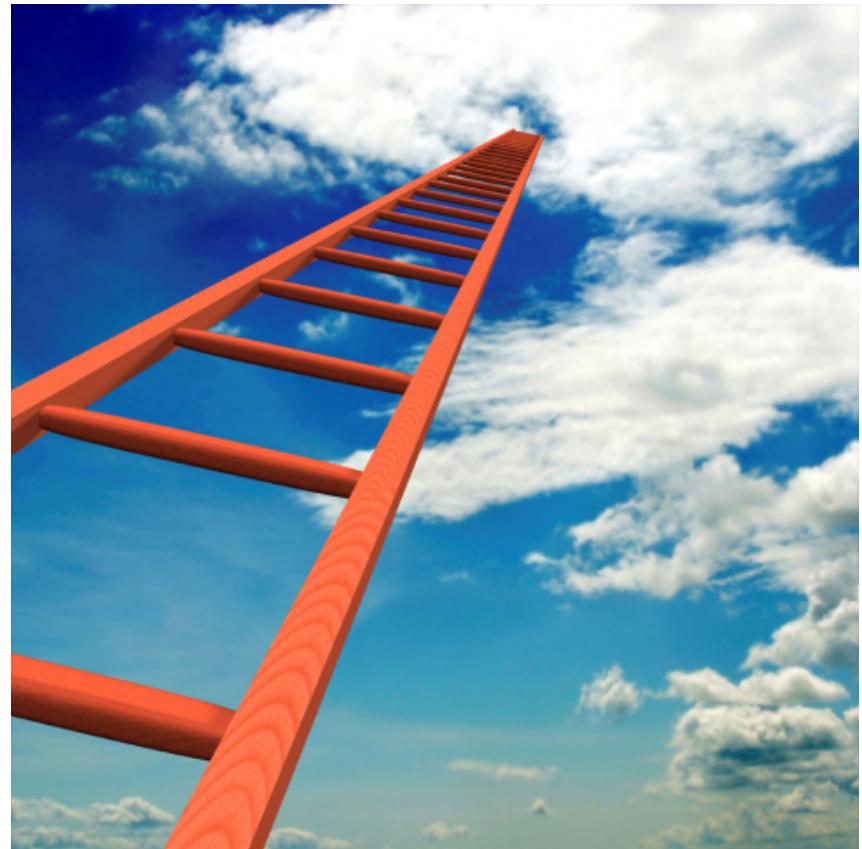
Keyword 2.

*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.*

Romans 12: 1-2

The story of God's mercy..

- Chapters 1-3
- All have sinned
- None of us can reach up to God by our own efforts



The story of God's mercy..

- Chapters 3 + 4
- God reached down to us in Jesus and paid the price for our sins on the cross.



The story of God's mercy..

- Chapter 5
- We have peace with God through Christ.
- But that's only the beginning
- In Christ, the history of the world changes direction.

“One trespass resulted in condemnation for all people... one righteous act resulted in justification and LIFE for all people” – v. 18

The story of God's mercy..

- Chapter 6 - 7
- New life in Christ involves a new lifestyle, where Jesus is Lord
- Without Jesus we can try to stop breaking God's law but we can't stop wanting to!



The story of God's mercy..

- Chapter 8
- Christ living in us by His Spirit
 - changes our hearts
 - Helps us connect with our Father
 - Holds us unshakeably in his love



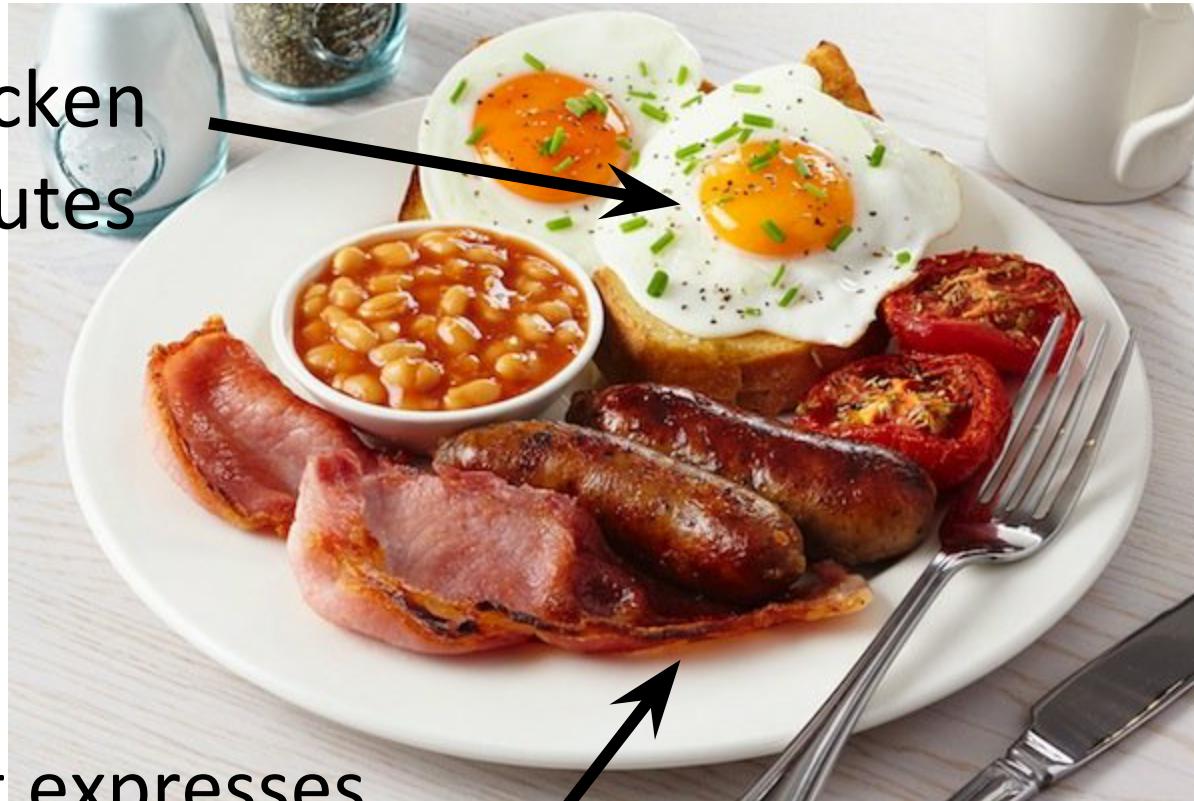
Keyword 3.

*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.**

Romans 12: 1

Being a living sacrifice means total commitment...

The chicken contributes



The pig expresses
total
commitment!

Being a living sacrifice ...

- Is about our whole life
- Is about total commitment
- Is life-giving
- Is about worship

*The heart of worship is
presenting ourselves to God
as living sacrifices*

Keyword 4.

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world,
but*

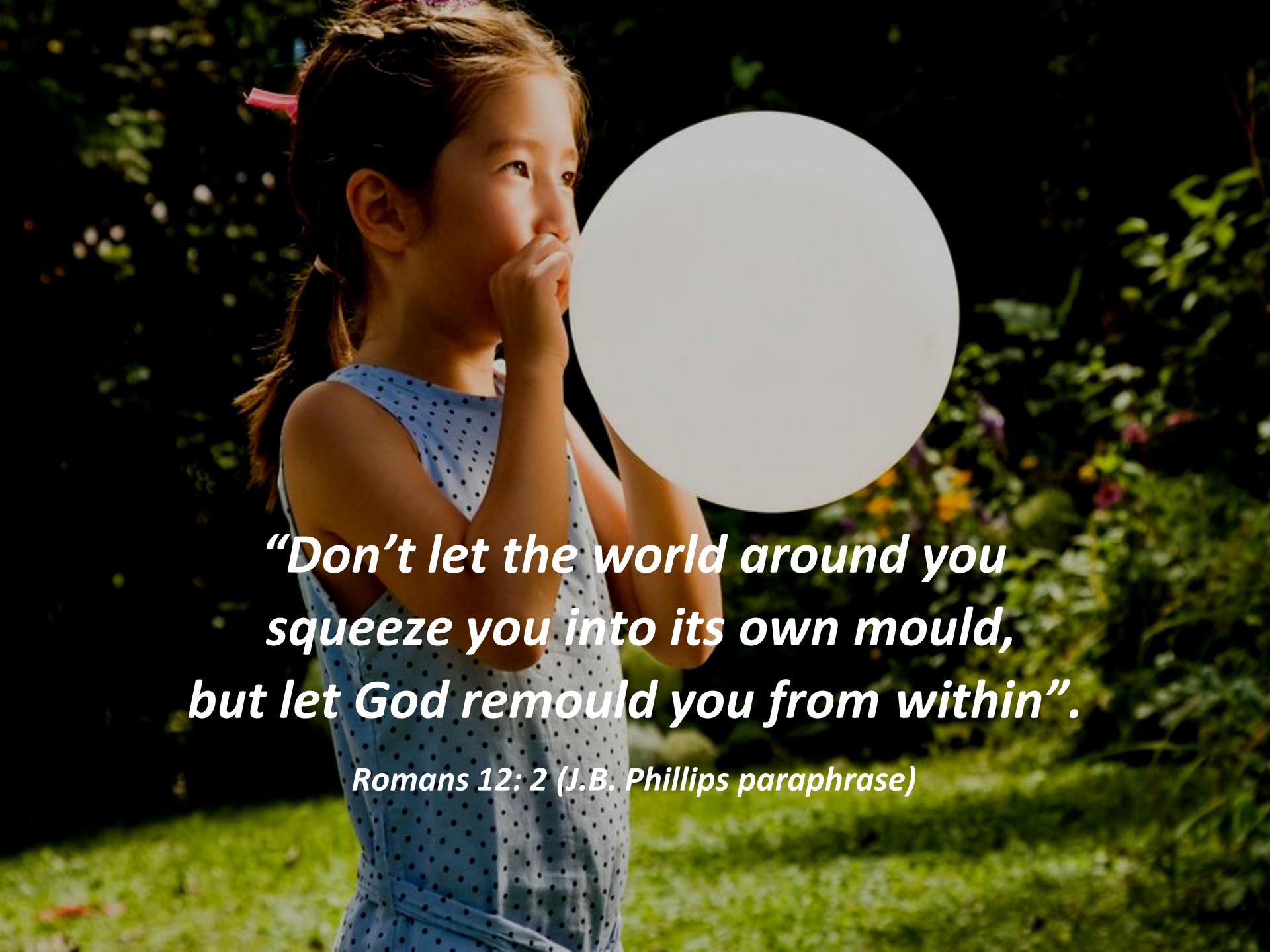
BE TRANSFORMED
by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12: 2

The gospel: not just about a *transaction* but about *transformation.*

- Romans 1: 16 - The gospel is the **power** of God for salvation.
- Romans 5: 10 – We were reconciled to God through the death of his Son... we **WILL** be **SAVED** through his life!
- Romans 8: 29 – Those God foreknew he predestined to be **conformed to the image of his Son.**

Transformation:
not just gospel-driven but
God-empowered.

A young girl with dark hair tied back, wearing a blue sleeveless top with black polka dots, is shown from the waist up. She is blowing a large, white, perfectly round bubble with her mouth. A thought bubble, also white and perfectly round, floats above her head. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green grass and some flowers.

*“Don’t let the world around you
squeeze you into its own mould,
but let God remould you from within”.*

Romans 12: 2 (J.B. Phillips paraphrase)

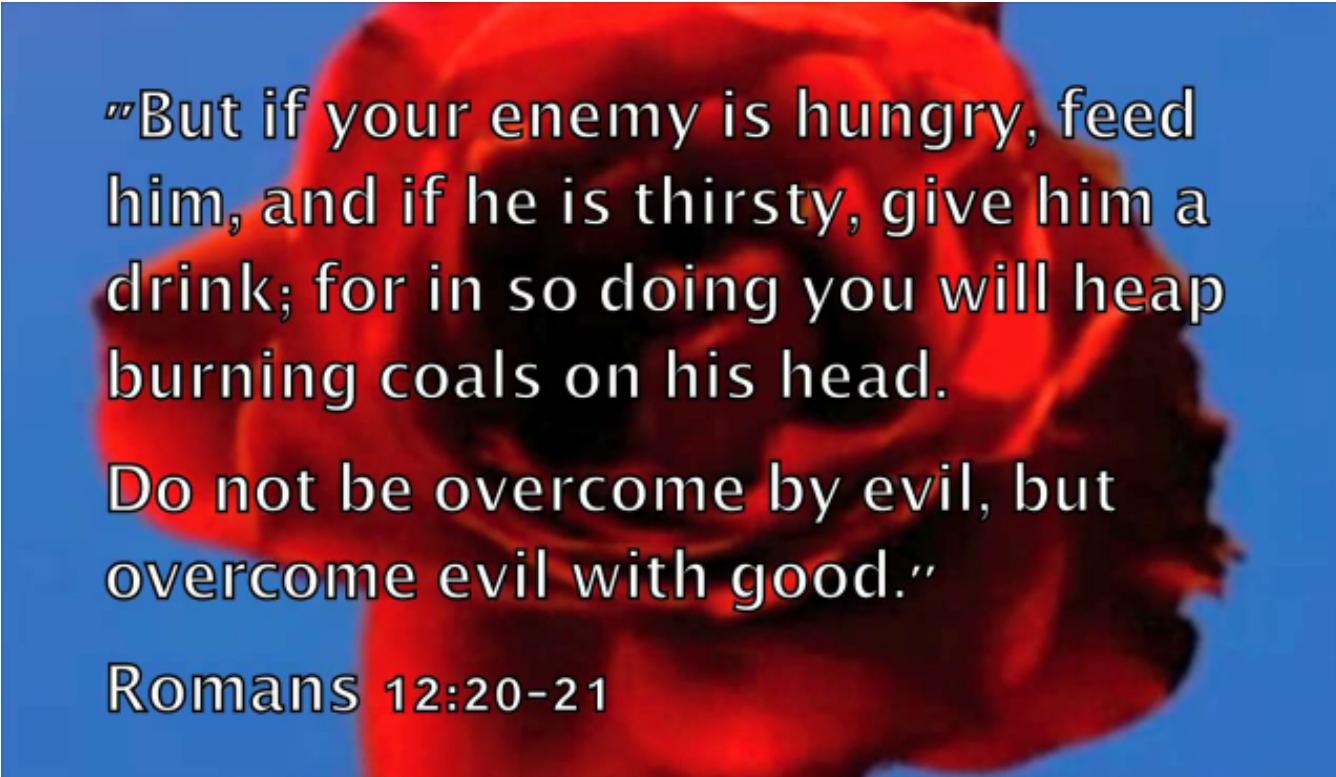
God-given transformation...

- **In the church**
 - **Everyone contributes
and is valued – v. 3-8**



God-given transformation...

- **In the church**
- **In our relationships - Verses 9-21**



"But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

Romans 12:20-21

God-given transformation...

- **In the church**
- **In our relationships**
 - Verses 9-21
- **As we relate to the world**
 - Romans 13

Keyword 5.

*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.*

Romans 12: 2

How about having a ...

