

CHAPTER 12

IBESEECH you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:

5 So we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith;

7 Or ministry, *let us wait* on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, *let him do it* with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

9 *Let* love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 *Be* kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13 Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14 Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15 Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16 *Be* of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of

low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17 Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

CHAPTER 13

LET every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

4 For he is the minister of God

to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

8 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.

9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

11. And that, knowing the time,

that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed.

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

CHAPTER 14

HIM that is weak in the faith receive ye, *but* not to doubtful disputations.

2 For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs.

3 Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him.

4 Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth

every day *alike*. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

6 He that regardeth the day, regardeth *it* unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard *it*. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.

7 For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself.

8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

9 For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge

this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in *his* brother's way.

14 I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that *there is* nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him *it is* unclean.

15 But if thy brother be grieved with *thy* meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died.

16 Let not then your good be evil spoken of:

17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

18 For he that in these things serveth Christ *is* acceptable to God, and approved of men.

19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

20 For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed *are* pure; but *it is* evil for that man who eateth with offence.

21 *It is* good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor *any thing* whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

22 Hast thou faith? have *it* to thyself before God. Happy *is* he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.

23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because *he eateth* not of faith: for whatsoever *is* not of faith is sin.

CHAPTER 15

WE then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let every one of us please *his* neighbour for *his* good to edification.

3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

5. Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:

6 That ye may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7. Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises *made* unto the fathers:

9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for *his* mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.

10 And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.

11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people.

12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

13. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

14. And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

17. I have therefore whereof I may glory through Jesus Christ in those things which pertain to God.

18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,

19 Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

20 Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

21 But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand.

22. For which cause also I have been much hindered from coming to you.

23 But now having no more place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come unto you;

24 Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you, if first I be somewhat filled with your *company*.

25 But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.

26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

27 It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things.

28 When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain.

29 And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

30. Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in *your* prayers to God for me;

31 That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which *I have*

for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints;

32 That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed.

33 Now the God of peace *be* with you all. Amen.

CHAPTER 16

ICOMMEND unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:

2 That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also.

3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:

4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

5 Likewise *greet* the church that is in their house. Salute my well-beloved Epaenetus, who is the first-fruits of Achaia unto Christ.

6 Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us.

7 Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

8 Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord.

9 Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stachys my beloved.

10 Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of Aristobulus' *household*.

11 Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that be of the *household* of Narcissus, which are in the Lord.

12 Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord.

13 Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

14 Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren which are with them.

15 Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them.

16 Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

17. Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their

own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

19 For your obedience is come abroad unto all *men*. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil.

20 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

21. Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you.

22 I Tertius, who wrote *this* epistle, salute you in the Lord.

23 Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

24 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

25. Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the com-

mandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

27 To God only wise, *be glory*

through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

¶ Written to the Romans from Corinthus, and sent by Phebe servant of the church at Cencrea.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

This is the thanksgiving season. Let us pause today to thank God for His goodness to us. The Psalmist asked the question, "What shall I render the Lord for all of His benefits?" Certainly on Thanksgiving Day and during the thanksgiving season we should render something to the Lord for His goodness and His benefits. Let us make a Thanksgiving offering to God's work and let us re-affirm our vows to serve Him better.

In chapter 12:1,2 we see that Christian service and living must begin with personal dedication to the Lord. The person who fails is one who has not surrendered himself completely to Christ. In daily yielding our bodies to Him, having our minds renewed by the Word, and surrendering our wills through prayer and obedience, Christians can become strong in the area of service for the Lord. We, as Christians, are either conformers, living for and like the world, or transformers, daily becoming more like Christ. II Corinthians 3:18 tells us we are transformed (transfigured) as we allow the Spirit of God to reveal Christ through the Word of God to us. It is only when the believer is thus dedicated to the Lord that he can know the will of God for his life.

Chapters 12—16 could be entitled "service" chapters. At the end of these chapters Paul tells us how to put our Christian learning into practice. True Christian service and living must begin with personal dedication to the Lord, and then an honest evaluation of the spiritual gifts the believer possesses. Paul tells us that we should not think of ourselves more highly than our spiritual gifts warrant. If a man is called to pastor, God will reveal it as he uses his gifts in the assembly. Our gifts differ, but they all come from the Spirit and are to be used for the glory of God. Just as we are saved "by grace, through faith," so we are to exercise our spiritual gifts according to the measure of faith and according to the grace He gives us. Chapter 12 also lists the seven basic ministries. Every person fits into one of these seven ministries. In which category are you? Prophecy, defined in I Corinthians 14:3; ministry, which is literally "deaconing," and

may refer to that office; teaching, according to II Timothy 2:1,2 is very important; exhorting, which suggests urging people to serve the Lord and be faithful to Him; giving, which should be done in singleness of heart, out of pure motives; ruling, pertaining to the government of the local church (I Timothy 3:4,12); and showing mercy, the personal ministry to those in need.

The best Christian is a Christian who is serving God. Chapter 13 indicates that the best citizen is a Christian citizen. Though the church should not get involved in politics, the individual believer is certainly to use his God-given privileges as a citizen.

Though Christians have been called out of this world, according to John 15:18, they are still responsible to the authority that is set over them. Men like Joseph and Daniel were able to perform wonderful ministries, even in heathen governments. The examples given to us by such men should be followed by us today. To disobey or resist the authority over us is to encourage judgment. Government authorities are agents of God for good, and good citizenship is required of all Christians.

Chapter 14 deals with the problems of questionable things in the lives of Christians. In our churches today we have differences of opinion concerning questionable practices, such as worldly amusements, and Paul tells us how to face and solve those differences. We are not given a list of rules, but Paul does lay down basic principles that Christians can follow. One way a person can tell whether something is right or wrong is by asking himself the question, "Am I fully convinced?" If there is ever conviction against a thing, then it is definitely wrong! Another question that can be asked is, "Am I doing this as unto the Lord?" If God cannot be glorified in what you are doing, then it is wrong! Another question is, "Will it stand the test of the Judgment Seat of Christ?" All Christians will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ and will give an account of what they did in the flesh. Another question, and a very important one, is, "Am I causing others to stumble?" "When I involve myself in things that are questionable, or things I am not sure of, will some other Christian see

me and will I become a stumblingblock to them?" Another question, "Am I doing this completely by faith?" If there is any doubt, then we are lacking faith, and that is sin. Finally, "Am I pleasing myself, or others?"

When questionable things arise, use these questions to evaluate your true intentions. After honestly checking yourself on each question, I believe your actions and deeds will meet God's test.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich" (Proverbs 21:17).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 38: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 11.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

JANIE BELL

KIMBERLE' POWERS

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1872

SAM JONES BECAME A CIRCUIT-RIDING PREACHER.

Sam Jones was one of the greatest evangelists America has ever known. He started as a circuit-riding preacher at the salary of sixty-five dollars per year. He said about this salary, "I don't care what they pay or don't pay; I have a place to preach now and I am so happy."

Sam Jones once said, "I don't care whether the folks talk good about me or talk bad about me as long as folks are talking about me."

He also said, "The reason folks don't talk about their religion is that folks don't have enough religion to talk about." Sam Jones became a great preacher because one day he heard a man say that the preacher is a king and the pulpit is his throne. This statement changed his life and Sam Jones changed the lives of millions in America. Let us thank God for his ministry and pray God to bless the evangelists of today. Perhaps, you know of some evangelist whose name you could call in prayer even now.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1957

Federal troops left Little Rock.

Dorothy Height, YMCA official, elected president of the National Council of Negro Women.

A Christian Life . . .

GEORGE BEAUCHAMP VICK (1901-1975)

George Beauchamp Vick was born in Russellville, Kentucky, the son of a lawyer-politician. When young Beauchamp was a year old, his father quit politics and entered Louisville Seminary as a student pastor. As a young child, Vick assisted his ailing father on pastoral visits, and the experience undoubtedly influenced his later emphasis on the visitation program as the key to church growth.

Vick's first paid position was the superintendency of the young people's department at J. Frank Norris's First Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas. Under Vick's dynamic leadership, the department averaged nearly a thousand per Sunday, and annually led First Baptist in additions.

In 1929 Vick "hit the sawdust trail" as the advance man-song leader for evangelists Wade House and Mordecai Ham. In 1936 Ham held a revival at the Temple Baptist Church in Detroit, where Norris was attempting a dual-pastorate. Due to the 1,300-mile distance involved, Norris was unable to conserve the results achieved during his visits, and Vick was induced to assume the role of "general superintendent," which, due to Norris's protracted absences, was tantamount to the pastorate. He became co-pastor in 1948 and sole pastor in 1950.

For nearly 40 years, Vick led the Temple Baptist Church to the pinnacle of influence among fundamentalists. During that period, he also became president of the World Fundamental Baptist Missionary Fellowship, president of the Bible Baptist Seminary, president of Baptist Bible College, primary founder and titular head of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, leading figure in the Fundamental Baptist Congresses, and a spiritual diplomat who most successfully bridged the gaps between the sundry fundamentalist islands.



Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:

Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.

E. A WARNING TO THOSE INTERESTED IN THIS WORLD ONLY, AND CARE NOT FOR THE WORLD TO COME

(Assignment 38)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() Luke 12:15

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

() Luke 12:19

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

() Luke 12:20

But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

() Luke 12:21

So is he that layeth up treasures for himself, and is not rich toward God.

() Luke 16:25

But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.