

The Fruit of a Sacrificed Life

Romans 12:9-21

Introduction

I A Life Offered To God Produces Love

- A. Love must be **sincere** - Jn 13:34-35; 1 Jn 3:14, 18
 - 1. Have what is evil - Ps 97:10; 1 Thess 5:21-22
 - 2. Cling to what is good - Phil 4:8
- B. Be **devoted** to one another in brotherly love - 1 Jn 3:10-19
 - 1. Honor one another above yourselves - Phil 2:3-4
- C. Never be lacking **zeal** - 1 Sam 17
 - 1. Keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord - Col 3:23-24
 - a. Be joyful in **hope** - 1 Pet 1:3-6
 - b. Be patient in affliction - Rom 5:2-5
 - c. Be faithful in **prayer** - Col 4:2; Eph 6:18; 1 Thes 5:17
- D. **Share** with God's people who are in need - Acts 2:44-47
- E. Practice **hospitality** - 1 Pet 4:9; Heb 13:2

II A Life Offered To God Produces Humility

- A. **Bless** those who persecute you - Lk 6:27-33
 - 1. Bless and do not curse - 1 Pet 2:23
- B. **Rejoice** with those who rejoice - 1 Cor 12:26
- C. **Mourn** with those who mourn - 2 Cor 1:3-5
- D. Live in **harmony** with one another - Rom 15:5-6
 - 1. Do not be proud - 1 Cor 13:4
 - 2. Be willing to associate with people of low position - Jam 2:1-9
 - 3. Do not be conceited - Gal 5:26

III A Life Offered To God Produces Faith

- A. Do not repay anyone **evil** for evil - 1 Pet 3:8-9
- B. Do what is **right** in the eyes of everybody - 2 Cor 8:8:21
- C. Live at **peace** with everyone - Col 3:15
 - 1. As far as it depends on you
- D. Do not take **revenge** - Deut 32:35
 - 1. Leave room for God's wrath - Rom 1:18; Col 3:6

- E. Do **good** to your enemy - Prov 25:21-22
 - 1. Feed him if he is hungry
 - 2. Give him a drink if he is thirsty
- F. Do not be **overcome** by evil - James 2:12-13
 - 1. Overcome evil with good

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following questions:

1. How do you tend to express God's love toward believers? Toward unbelievers? How do you most meaningfully experience God's love through others?
2. How are the exhortations of Romans 12:9-21 the fruit of Romans 12:1-2? How do these verses bring light to what Paul meant by offering our bodies as a living sacrifice?
3. Of the 25 commands listed in verses 9-21, which 2 are the easiest for you to keep? Which 2 are the most difficult? Why?
4. How can you put into practice the things you have learned from this passage? With your family? With people at church? With co-workers? Be specific and concrete.
5. Is there a situation in your life where you have been tempted to take revenge? What has been the fruit of your approach? What positive steps can you take to bless the person(s) involved? Are you willing?
6. Imagine for a moment that we as a church lived out the teaching contained in Rom 12:9-21. What impact would it have in your life? In the life of the church? In our influence on Kauai?
7. Take a few moments to thank God for the areas in your life where you are successfully carrying out these commands. Then ask Him to help in the areas where you are weak and to grow in you the fruit of a life sacrificed to God.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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