

## UNCONDITIONAL COMMITMENT

Rom 12:1,2

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. The church has some great needs. The needs arise not from God's side for it is perfect, but from the human side - from you and me. For the most part Christians are convinced of the work we are to do and the lives we are to live, but so often we are not committed to that work or that holy life
- B. Rom 12:1,2 presents an interesting study concerning our commitment, work and life in Christ
- C. As in all of Paul's letters, he:
  - 1. Sets forth doctrinal teaching Rom 1-11
  - 2. Practical teaching Rom 12-16
- D. The theme of Romans is "The Perfect Gospel." The key passage is Rom 1:16,17. Romans 1:16 shows the gospel is God's power to save the lost and Rom 1:17 shows the gospel is God's power to keep the saved, saved

### DISCUSSION:

#### I. THE DOCTRINAL SECTION OF ROMANS CAN BE OUTLINED:

- A. Condemnation - Rom 1-3
  - 1. Gentiles condemned because of sins. Three times it is stated God gave them up Rom 1:25,26,28
  - 2. Jews without excuse Rom 2
  - 3. All humanity hopeless Rom 3:23
  - 4. Man's salvation by God's grace Rom 3:24-26
- B. Justification Rom 4-5
  - 1. Example: Abraham justified by faith Rom 4
  - 2. We are "justified by faith" Rom 5:1
- C. Sanctification Rom 6-7
  - 1. Sanctification means "set apart;" i.e., from a profane to sacred life
  - 2. Sanctified from world in baptism Rom 6:1-8
  - 3. Free from sin to serve righteousness Rom 6:16-18
- D. Glorification Rom 8
  - 1. Christian must live "spiritually" not "carnally" Rom 8:6 "led by the spirit of God" Rom 8:14
  - 2. As children of God we have become heirs Rom 8:17
  - 3. Our lives with their difficulties, have no comparison to future glory Rom 8:18
  - 4. We are more than conquerors Rom 8:37
- E. Warnings Rom 9-11
  - 1. The Jews, though religiously zealous, were zealous not according to saving knowledge of the word and thereby rejected of God. Rom 9:6; 10:2; 10:19-21
  - 2. However, a remnant to be saved by their obedience to the gospel. Rom 11:2,23

#### II. THE PRACTICAL SECTION: Rom 12-16, concludes the Epistle. We need to note well the teaching inherent in Rom 12:1,2

- A. Our commitment Rom 12:1
  - 1. "Therefore" suggest "the reason" for Christian's commitment. In view of doctrine Rom 1-11, Paul exhorts them to live holy lives unto God
  - 2. The Christian is: Rom 11:36
    - a. "Of Him" owned by Jesus 1Cor 6:19,20; Tit 2:14
    - b. "To Him" under his Lordship Acts 2:36
    - c. "Through Him" We are Christians by virtue of his grace. Jhn 3:16; Eph 2:8-10
  - 3. We are "living sacrifices" Rom 12:1 "Spiritual sacrifices" 1Pet 2:5. This is our "reasonable service" or what God expects of Christians
- B. Terms of Commitment: negative & positive Rom 12:2
  - 1. Negative terms of our commitment Rom 12:2a
    - a. Don't match life to world Jas 4:4; 1Jhn 2:15-17
    - b. Don't allow world to decide how we live, what we think, or where we go
  - 2. Positive terms of our surrender Rom 12:2b "be ye transformed" The Greek word "metamorphe" to transform or to change and is used only here and in Matt 17:2; Mark 9:2 (like a worm to a butterfly.)
    - a. Christian a new creature 2Cor 5:17 (inward change)
    - b. Accomplished through "renewing of our mind"
- C. Changing inner man results in change of daily living
  - 1. "Seek those things above" Col 3:1
  - 2. "Set our mind on things above" Col 3:2
  - 3. Our "Life is hid with Christ in God" Col 3:3
  - 4. Christ is now "our life" Col 3:4
- D. It matters where we go; what we say, think or do 1Pet 1:15
- E. Purpose of unconditional commitment to "prove" put to the test; demonstrate or show forth the: Rom 12:2c
  - 1. "Good" that which is beneficial in its effect
  - 2. "Acceptable" that which is well pleasing
  - 3. "Perfect" that which is complete.

#### CONCLUSION:

- A. Let each of us live our life in an "unconditional commitment" to God so that we may enjoy the life to come in heaven
- B. Let each of us live lives so that we are distinctively Christian and that others know we are Christians.
- C. Our commitment must show in our lives or else we are not really what the Lord wants us to be.