

## RESPONDING TO WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US

January 16, 2014 Romans 12:1-8 by Ben Skeat

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**Main Idea:** Exploring what an appropriate response to all that God has done for us looks like.

1. The appropriate response to God involves our **ACTIVE WILL** and takes place in the **REAL WORLD**. (v1,3)

- In scripture, knowledge is always shown in action.  
*Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom* **James 3:13 NIV**
- There is no earning, no hierarchy, no need to overestimate what we can do.  
*...it's important that you not misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No, God brings it all to you...* **Romans 12:3a MSG**

2. The appropriate response to God **BEGINS IN OUR MINDS**. (v2)

- Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.* **Romans 12:2 JBP**
- We give God our minds- he transforms us from inside out. Life moves in the direction he wants. This is a good thing!
  - How can we go about giving God our minds?
  - *Takes commitment and structure.*

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* **1 Thess. 5:16-18**

3. The appropriate response to God is **LIVED OUT IN OUR ACTIONS**. (v4-8)

- God wants our ordinary day to day lives. God wants our minds.
- Understanding this, we are free to be useful.
- Free to teach, prophesy, lead, give, care etc...: for the joy of the gift itself and not because they get us power, title, or acceptance.
- Takes place within the context of larger community (body) of believers and draws significance from this.

4. In light of all that God has done, the only appropriate response to God is **THAT WE GIVE HIM ALL OF US**.

- Understand the scope of the project: It's not a remodel, it's a total rebuild and the work of a lifetime.
- Repent of and take positive steps to change habits of the body & mind that are opposed to Gods stated agenda
- Take the good things that God has given you and use them!