



Sunday, January 20, 2019  
Pastor Doug Phillips

## **Intro to Romans 12:1-2**

When we think about worship, it is crucial that we see it as all-encompassing. When we reduce worship to part of a church service or even a genre of music, we risk diluting the gospel. The gospel is that God has graciously saved a group of people through the death and resurrection of His Son so that they might in turn worship Him with their whole beings as they were created to. Unfortunately, to not view worship in these terms has become the norm in contemporary evangelical culture.

Romans 12 provides an excellent reminder, then, that worship is about an orientation toward God. Either we view Him with utmost reverence, which leads us to submit to His authority, and live that out in service to His purposes or we are not properly oriented toward Him. So, as we think about our whole bodies being put on the altar to be living sacrifices, we must keep in mind that it is part of God's grand design for all of creation—that we might all worship Him with one heart and voice.

### **Context**

Romans 12 is, of course, the major turning point in the argument of the book of Romans. We are clued into this by the fact that the passage begins with a “therefore” (a word that introduces a conclusion of sorts), but then continues “in view of the mercies of God.” What mercies are those? He has just elaborated on them. Whereas our bodies (and body parts) were used for sin and rebellion against God (Rom. 3:11-18), now they are used for good, for a sacrifice to Him that is pleasing and acceptable.

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Romans 12:1-2

“True Worship”

Key Ideas

- 1) Worship is a massively important topic to God (John 4:23)
- 2) Every religion at that time entailed animal sacrifices. Christianity had living human sacrifices.
- 3) Worship is offering all that we are to God; our bodies are to be completely consecrated.
- 4) The three words translated “worship” in our Bibles mean: “bow or bend the knee in submission,” “serve,” and “profoundly revere.”
- 5) In our culture, worship is most closely associated with music, but music is only a small part of what worship entails.
- 6) Confession of sin, contributing an offering, leading a Bible study, and perhaps most importantly, how we respond to the preaching of God’s word is all worship.
- 7) As Christians, we ought to resist and reject worldliness.
- 8) We ought to live with eternity’s values in mind.
- 9) Worship is adoration of God—an exercise in re-orienting ourselves toward a different goal. Everything in our lives must be put on trial before God.

