

# Paul's Epistle to the Romans

## LIVING SACRIFICES

Tevet 15, 5775; January 5, 2014

Lesson Seventeen; Romans 12

### Consigned to Disobedience

<sup>30</sup> For just as you [Gentile believers] were at one time [idolaters] disobedient to God but now have received mercy [only] because of their [i.e. Jewish] disobedience [which has forestalled the redemption and the final judgment],

<sup>31</sup> so they [the Jewish people] too have now been disobedient [to the good news message] in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy.

<sup>32</sup> For God has consigned all to disobedience [by means of concealing full revelation], that he may have mercy on all.

### Romans 12

ESV Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, [God-fearing Gentile] brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies [figuratively speaking] as a living sacrifice [like the burnt offering], holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual [sacrificial] worship.

<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace [i.e. favor] given to me [as an apostle to the Gentiles] I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the [small] measure of faith that God has assigned.

### One Body Many Parts

<sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,

<sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Cf. 1 Corinthians 12:21-14; Ephesians 4:4ff)

### Spiritual Gifts in Romans 12

<sup>6</sup> Having gifts that differ according to the grace [i.e. favor] given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

<sup>7</sup> if service [to one another], in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;

<sup>8</sup> the one who exhorts, in his [word of] exhortation (cf. 1 Tim 4:13; Hebrews 13:22); the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

- Prophecy
- Service
- Teaching
- Exhortation
- Contribution

- Leadership
- Acts of Mery (Gemilut Chasidim)
  - Feeding the hungry
  - Clothing the naked
  - Escorting the dead
  - Consoling mourners
  - Providing for a bride
  - Making peace
  - Visiting the sick
  - Caring for orphans
  - Looking after widows

### Love and Hate

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

<sup>10</sup> Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

### Alacrity

<sup>11</sup> Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

### Tenacity

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

### Care for Brothers and Sisters

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

### The Beatitudes and Sermon on the Mount

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

<sup>17</sup> Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

<sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written [in Deuteronomy 32:35], "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

<sup>20</sup> To the contrary [it says in Proverbs 25:21-22], "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head."

<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil [committed against you], but overcome evil with good.