

Word of Life Christian Learning Center

Sermon NOTES

A Living Sacrifice

Romans 12:1-2

1 Therefore I exhort you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a **sacrifice—living**, holy, *and* pleasing to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may approve what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Introduction

I want to read to you a pastor's testimony:

"Some years ago, a tearful and obviously distraught young woman approached me at a conference where I was speaking. She told me a story I have heard many times."

'I just can't seem to live the Christian life the way I should,' she said. 'I'm frustrated. I don't have spiritual victory or a sense of accomplishment. I struggle with the simplest forms of obedience, and I'm constantly defeated. Can you help me?'

The pastor said, 'What has been your approach to solving the problems yourself?'

She replied, 'I've tried everything. I've attended churches where they speak in tongues, have healings, and have all kinds of extraordinary spiritual experiences. I've spoken in tongues myself, had ecstatic experiences, been prophesied over, and experienced several supposed miracles. I've been 'slain in the spirit.' But despite all of that, I'm not pleased with my life and I know God isn't pleased. I've tried to get everything from Him that I can, but I'm not satisfied. I'm still miserable and want more.'

'I think you have just put your finger on the problem,' the pastor said. 'The key to spiritual victory and true happiness is not in trying to get all we can from God but in giving all that we are and have to Him.'

Countless thousands of people today, including many genuine Christians, flock to various churches, seminars, and conferences in search of personal benefits — practical, emotional, and spiritual — that they hope to receive.

GOD HAS ALREADY GIVEN US EVERYTHING.

Romans 8:32

32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously **give us all things**?

Ephesians 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **has blessed us IN CHRIST with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places**,

2 Peter 1:3-4

3 His divine power has granted to us **all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,

4 by which he has granted to us **his precious and very great promises**, so that through them you may become **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

Colossians 2:1-3

1 For I want you to understand how great a struggle I have on your behalf and for those who are at Laodicea, and for all those who have not seen my face in the flesh,

2 so that their hearts may be encouraged, having been held together in love, even unto all **the wealth of the full assurance of understanding**, unto the **full knowledge** of God's mystery, *that is, Christ Himself*,

3 in whom are hidden **all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**.

Colossians 2:10

10 and **in him you have been filled**, who is the head of all rule and authority.

Ephesians 3:19

and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be **filled up to all the fullness of God**.

By the way, being filled with all the fullness of God, being filled with Christ Jesus does not mean that we then become partakers of their deity (i.e. We do not become divine).

As one commentary to puts it, "What Paul means is that in Christ they [believers] find the satisfaction of every spiritual want."

Ephesians 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **has blessed us IN CHRIST with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places**,

Seeking more from God is just the opposite of what Paul is emphasizing in **Rom 12:1-2**.

Here, **the apostle does not focus on what more we need to receive from God**, but on **what we are to give Him**.

THE KEY TO A PRODUCTIVE AND SATISFYING CHRISTIAN LIFE IS NOT IN GETTING MORE BUT IN GIVING MORE/ALL.

Exegesis – Explanation of the Scripture

Romans 12:1-2

1 Therefore I exhort you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a **sacrifice—living**, holy, *and* pleasing to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may approve what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Verse 1

1 **Therefore**, as a result **I exhort you** [I beg of you, please; plead, urge] my **brothers** [fellow believers, those who already belong to God's family] by [in view of the aforementioned] **the mercies of God**

What is mercy?

Mercy really is something of a legal term. Think of it as in a courtroom where a judge extends mercy rather than finding someone guilty and assigning the full consequence of that guilt.

Mercy is the compassion and kindness shown to someone whom it is in one's power to punish or harm.

Mercy an act meant to relieve someone of their suffering; sorrow for the wants, afflictions, or distresses of another; Heartfelt – from the depth of an inner being - sympathy, compassion, pity.

You **canNOT** make a fundamental distinction between **grace and mercy** because they are simply hand in hand in New Testament theology. The distinction is merely the context in which one is primarily more legal than the other. i.e. Mercy is a more legal term than grace.

What are the mercies of God Paul talks about in the first 11 chapters?

- **Eternal Love** (Rom 1:7; 8:34-38)
- **Eternal grace** (Rom 5:2)
- **The Holy Spirit** (Rom 5:5)
- **Everlasting peace**
- **Eternal joy**
- **Saving faith**
- **Comfort**
- **Strength**
- **Wisdom**
- **Hope**
- **Patience**

- **Kindness**
- **Honor**
- **Glory**
- **Righteousness**
- **Security**
- **Eternal life**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Reconciliation**
- **Justification**
- **Sanctification**
- **Freedom** (Rom 6:17-18)
- **Resurrection** (Rom 6:4)
- **Sonship** (Rom 8:16-17)
- **On-going intercession** (Rom 8:26)

Chapters 1-11 delineate the doctrines of **condemnation, election, justification, sanctification, and glorification.**

As a matter of fact, these mercies are so profound that it excited PAUL to a chorus of praise and worship at the end of

Romans 11:33-36

33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

34 For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor?

35 Or who has first given to Him that it might be repaid to him?

36 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen.

WHAT ARE WE TO DO IN LIGHT OF ALL OF THESE MERCIES?

Psalms 116:12 What shall I give to Yahweh in return
For all His bountiful dealings with me?

Sometimes people say, “Why so much doctrinal teaching? Can’t you be more practical?”

No, the truth of the matter is your **orthopraxy** [how you live/ practical application of the scriptures] is a direct reflection of your **orthodoxy**.

In other words, your ethical behavior is a direct reflection of your dogma. Your duties flow out of your doctrine. It’s what you believe that essentially designs your behavior.

Right doctrine leads to right behavior. Without right doctrine, a believer has no basis for their thinking, doing, and living.

Definitions

Orthodoxy = Doctrine; Principles from the word of God; What is taught.

Orthopraxy = Practical application; Ethical and right [in the sight of God] behavior; One's duties concerning the principles taught.

John 13:17

17 If you **know these things**, you are blessed if you **do them**.

Romans 12:1

1 Therefore, I exhort you brothers, by the mercies of God, **to present...**

To present means to surrender up, to yield up, to offer up, to hold nothing back. To put at God's disposal [the power or authority to make use of as one chooses].

Like a priest who brings a sacrifice and lays the whole of the sacrifice on the altar, we are to put our body on the altar. By doing that, we are saying, "God, I give you my body."

We are priests of God!

As members of God's present "holy priesthood," Christians are here exhorted to perform what is essentially a priestly act of worship.

We offer sacrificial worship to a holy God...

1 Peter 2:5,9

5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a **holy priesthood**, to **offer up spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

9 But you are a chosen race, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, a people **for his own possession**, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Romans 12:1

1 Therefore, I exhort you brothers, by the mercies of God to present **your bodies**

The body is regarded as the **outward organ of the will**. In other words, the body carries out the desires of the heart.

Our bodies are **MORE THAN** physical shells that house our spirits/souls.

They [our bodies] are also where our old, unredeemed humanity resides = FLESH.

When we talk about the **body** we are also including the **heart/soul**, **mind** which includes the will, desires, etc..

Our bodies therefore encompass not only our physical being but also the evil longings of our mind, emotions, and will.

Romans 7:5

5 For while we were in the flesh "life in the flesh" is life lived apart from the control of God's Spirit (see v. 6, the **sinful passions**, which were aroused by the Law, were **at work in the members of our body** to bear fruit for death.

Romans 7:22-25

22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,
 23 but I see a different law in the **members of my body**, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.
 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?
 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my **flesh** the **law of sin**.

1 Corinthians 6:20

20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your **body**.

THE FIRST STEP IN PRESENTING OURSELVES AS LIVING SACRIFICESIS TO PRESENT OUR HEART/SOULS [give our hearts/souls fully to God]

THE HEART/SOUL

WHAT SACRIFICING YOUR HEART AND SOUL LOOKS LIKE?

Deuteronomy 6:5

5 You shall **love** the Lord your God with **all your heart** and with all your **soul** and with all your **might**.

Mark 12:30

30 And you shall **love** the Lord your God with **all your heart** and with **all your soul** and with all your **mind** and with all your **strength**.'

HOW DO WE DO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OF OUR HEART, SOUL, MIND, MIGHT, AND STRENGTH?

Deuteronomy 10:12

12 "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to **walk in all his ways**, to **love him**, to **serve the Lord** your God with **all your heart** and with all your **soul**,

Deuteronomy 26:16

16 “This day the Lord your God commands you to do these statutes and rules. You shall therefore be **careful to do** them with **all your heart** and with all your **soul**.

Joshua 22:5

5 Only be very careful to **observe** [careful attention to; to scrutinize, to study, to examine] **the commandment** and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, **to love the Lord your God HOW?**”, and to **walk** in all his ways and to **keep** his commandments and to **cling** to follow closely to him and to **serve him** as a slave serves their master with **all your heart** and with all your **soul**.”

ANOTHER WAY TO SACRIFICE YOUR HEART/SOUL IS TO **BE GRATEFUL**

Psalms 86:12-13

12 I **give thanks** to you, O Lord my God, **with my whole heart**, and I will **glorify your name** forever.

13 For great is your steadfast love toward me; you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

Psalms 9:1

9 I will **give thanks** to the Lord with **all my heart**; I will tell of all Your wonders.

Psalms 103:1-3

1 **Bless the Lord**, O my soul, And **all that is within me**, bless His holy name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits;

3 Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases;

Proverbs 3:5

5 **Trust** in the Lord with **all your heart** And do not lean on your own understanding.

GOD’S PLEA TO US.....

Proverbs 23:26

26 My son, **give me your heart**, and let your eyes **observe** my ways.

Romans 12:1

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies** regarded as a sacrifice, living, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Remember, **THE FIRST STEP** in presenting your body is to preserve your heart/soul.

THE SECOND STEP IN PRESENTING OURSELVES AS LIVING SACRIFICES IS TO PRESENT OUR PHYSICAL BODY AND ALL THAT IT ENTAILS

BODY

ROMANS 12:1

1 Therefore, I exhort you brothers, by the mercies of God to present **your bodies** [regarded as the **OUTWARD ORGAN OF THE WILL**].

EXHORTATIONS TO GLORIFY GOD "IN THE BODY"

1 Corinthians 6:20

20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God **in your body**.

Philippians 1:20

20 as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always **Christ will be honored in my body**, whether by life or by death.

2 Corinthians 4:10

10 always carrying **in the body** the death of Jesus, so that the life of **Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies** [which is your spiritual service of worship].

WHY ARE WE TO PRESENT OUR BODIES?

Because our bodies are included in the salvation process, not just our spirit and soul.

Romans 8:10-11

10 If Christ is in you, though the **body** is dead [as of right now] because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your **mortal bodies** through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the **redemption of our body**.

Philippians 3:20-21

20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

21 who will transform **the body** of our humble state into conformity with **the body** of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

OUR BODIES WILL ONE DAY BE GLORIFIED THUS COMPLETING THE SALVATION/REDEMPTION PROCESS!

2 Cor 5:1-5

1 For we know that if the **earthly tent** which is our house is torn down, we have a **building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.**

2 For indeed in **this house** we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, 3 inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked.

4 For indeed while we are in **this tent**, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life.

5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

WHY ARE WE TO SACRIFICE OUR PHYSICAL BODIES?

1. Because our bodies are included in the salvation process
2. **Because our bodies don't belong to us and are the temple of the Holy Spirit**

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Once we realize that our bodies do not belong to us and that they are the temple of the holy ghost, we need to be very careful as what we do with our bodies!

WHY ARE WE TO SACRIFICE OUR PHYSICAL BODIES?

1. Because our bodies are included in the salvation process
2. Because our bodies don't belong to us and are the temple of the Holy Spirit
3. **Because our bodies are the instrument through which our will is displayed**

God gave us bodies. He created them.

God designed the soul, heart, the will, thoughts, etc., to express themselves through the body.

Body includes the brains, the organ of speech, the eyes, hands and feet.

Having a body is a good thing.

It was sin that causes us to use it improperly.

Genesis 3 - the first sin ever committed - brains, eyes, hands, mouth

Genesis 4 - have the first murder.

James 3:1–10 the tongue

As a reminder, our bodies encompass not only our physical being but also the evil longings of our mind, emotions, and will.

Romans 7:5

5 For while we were in the flesh "life in the flesh" is life lived apart from the control of God's Spirit (see v. 6, the **sinful passions**, which were aroused by the Law, were **at work in the members of our body** to bear fruit for death.

Rom 7:22-25

22 For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man,
 23 but I see a different law in the **members of my body**, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members.
 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?
 25 Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my **flesh** the **law of sin**.

BY THE WAY, THE WAY WE EXHIBIT OUR SIN IS THROUGH THE BODY

Sin uses the body to express itself.

We used to present our bodies to sin and put it at Satan's disposal.

Romans 6:12-13

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in **your mortal body** so that you obey **its lusts**,
13 Do not present your **members** to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present **yourselves** to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your **members** to God as instruments for righteousness.

Romans 6:19

19 I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once **presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness**, so now **present your members** as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.

Romans 7:23

23 but I see in **my members** another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in **my members**.

1 Corinthians 9:27

27 but I discipline **my body** and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

2 Corinthians 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done **in the body**, whether **good** or **evil**.

WHAT ARE WE TO DO TO PRESENT OUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE?

- **Recognize to whom it belongs and what our bodies are**

1 Corinthians 6:15-19

15 Do you not know that your **bodies** are **members of Christ**? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? May it never be!

16 Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a prostitute is one body with her? For He says, "THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him. 18 Flee immorality. Every other sin that a man commits is outside **the body**, but the immoral man sins against his own body.

19 Or do you not know that your **body is a temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and that **you are not your own**?

20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore **glorify God in your body**.

- **Kill/deaden/put to death the activities of the body/flesh**

Romans 8:12-13

12 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh —
13 for if you are living present, active, indicative, i.e. habitually according to the flesh dictates, desires, demands, cravings, you must die you are going to die-second death; but if by the Spirit you are **putting to death** present active indicative the deeds/practices of the body, you will live.

Kill sin, crush it, sap it of its strength, and deprive it of its influence.

Ps 19:14

14 Let the words of my mouth every single thing that comes out of my mouth **and the**

meditation [thoughts ideas notions inspirations beliefs theories opinions, plans, philosophies, concepts and designs] **of my heart** [the inner man, the mind, the wheel, the understanding, the real me] **Be acceptable** [a pleasure, I delight, well pleasing] **in Your sight** [in your presence, before your face], **O Lord** [ruler, controller, owner, master], **my rock** [stable, steadfast, unmovable, sure] **and my Redeemer** [the one who has saved me from sin and shame and from danger seen and unseen].

THIS IS TO BE DONE THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Romans 8:13

13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if **by the Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Discipline our body

1 Corinthians 9:27

27 but I discipline **my body** and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

In order to discipline your body you must control your body

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; **4** that each of you know how to **possess** gain mastery over; to control his own **vessel** body and all members there of in sanctification and honor,

PRESENTING OUR BODIES IS AN ACT OF SANCTIFICATION. IT'S A SANCTIFYING ACT

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; **4** that each of you know how to **possess** gain mastery over; to control his own **vessel** body and all members there of in **sanctification** and **honor**,

IN THE END, WE MUST GIVE AN ACCOUNT BEFORE THE JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH CONCERNING OUR BODIES

2 Corinthians 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done **in the body**, whether **good** or **evil**.

Remember,

The **first step** in presenting ourselves as living sacrifices **is to present our heart/souls** [give our hearts/souls fully to God]

The **second step** in presenting yourself as a living sacrifice is to **is to present our physical body and all that it entails**

THE THIRD STEP TO PRESENTING OURSELVES AS LIVING SACRIFICES IS TO RENEW OUR MIND

Romans 12:1-2

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may so that you may approve what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

2 And do not be conformed to this world [Stop masquerading [making a false outward show] in the ways of this world, its thoughts, ideas, theories, mannerisms, speech, styles and habits], **but be transformed** [instead, let your outward expression be a representation of your regenerated inner being; in other words, let your inward man be put on display externally, outwardly; let what people see outwardly radiate, emanate from your regenerated, born again, redeemed inward self; in other words, a transfiguration – where who you really are inwardly/spiritually comes bursting forth like the noon day sun outwardly – **Matt 17:2**; ye are the light of the world/city set on a hill/CANNOT BE HIDDEN **Matt 5:14**]

by the renewing of your mind [a renewal, a renovation, a revamping, a makeover, an overhaul, a complete change for the better of your mental process.

“This world” or “age” as opposed to that which is to come; it is an evil world.

Galatians 1:4

4 who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from **this present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father,

of which Satan is the God.

2 Corinthians 4:4

4 in whose case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

An APPARENT [plain, visible, obvious] **OR SUPERFICIAL** [surfacey, shallowly. Light] **CONFORMITY - NOT TO MENTION AN ACTUAL ACCOMMODATION** [an adjustment to, an adaptation of] **TO A SYSTEM CONTROLLED BY SUCH A SPIRIT, CAN BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.**

MIND RENOVATION, MIND RENEWAL IS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

When we **constantly, consistently continually** and **habitually surrender** [the voluntary abandonment of oneself entirely to the control of another; to give in to; to submit or yield; to cease resistance to and submit entirely to their authority] to the **influence** and **control** of the **Holy Spirit**, TRUE MIND RENEWAL/RENOVATION begins

As a result of the Spirit's control of the **mental processes** *the believer's mind, thinking ability, moral reasoning, and spiritual understanding*.....the believer then is enabled to WALK IN THE WAYS OF THE LORD through **obedience to the Word of God.**

Romans 12:1-2

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies **as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable [pleasing]** to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may so that you may approve what the will of God is, that which is good and pleasing and perfect.

THE CONDITION OF OUR SACRIFICE

As a sacrifice—living, holy, *and* pleasing

Living

By calling it **living**, Paul intimates, that we are sacrificed to the Lord for this end, — that our former life being destroyed in us, we may be raised up to a new life.

A living sacrifice, as opposed to dead animals.

1 Peter 2:5

5 you also, as **living stones**, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to **offer up spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 13:15-18

15 Through Him then, let us continually **offer up a sacrifice** of praise to God, that is, the **fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.**

16 And do not neglect **doing good** and **sharing** willing gift, ready contribution; intimate fellowship; generous distribution and contribution to the needy for with such **sacrifices** God is pleased to gratify entirely; well-pleased.

17 **Obey** your leaders **and submit** to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

18 **Pray for us**, for we are sure that we have a good conscience, desiring to conduct ourselves honorably in all things.

Holy

By the term **holy**, Paul points out that which necessarily belongs to a sacrifice, already noticed; for a victim is then only approved, when it had been previously made holy.

Hagios - that which is set apart for God. It also carries with it the idea of purity and freedom from sin JUST AS God is both infinitely pure and is also free from sin.

*"...the physical body of the believer, put at the disposal of God, presented to Him, is **holy**, both in the sense of being set apart for His use, and **holy** in the sense of being used for pure and righteous purposes, and thus, free from sinful practices."* - Weust

Leviticus 20:7

7 'You shall consecrate/sanctify yourselves therefore and be holy, for I am the Lord your God.

1 Peter 1:15-16

14 As obedient children, **do not be conformed** to the **former** lusts which were yours in your ignorance,

15 but like the Holy One who called you, **be holy yourselves** also in **all your behavior**;

16 because it is written, "YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."

Pleasing [Acceptable]

By the third word, **pleasing [acceptable]** he reminds us, that our life is framed aright, when this sacrifice is so made as to be pleasing to God: he brings to us at the same time no common consolation; for he teaches us, that our work is pleasing and acceptable to God when we devote ourselves to purity and holiness.

Euareston - made up of **arestos**, "acceptable, pleasing, approved, satisfactory," and **eu**, "good, well," the compound word means something which is **well approved, eminently satisfactory, or extraordinarily pleasing**.

Psalms 19:14

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Be acceptable in Your sight,

O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

1 Tim 2:1-3

1 First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men,

2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity The adjective means "reverenced, esteemed, admired, honored; to exhibit a dignity which arises from moral elevation, and thus invites reverence."

3 This is **good and acceptable in the sight of God** our Savior,

Phil 4:18-20

18 But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, **well-pleasing to God.**

19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1 Peter 2:20

20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds **favor** it is acceptable and **well pleasing**; also means *grace* with God.

Romans 12:1

1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice—living, holy, *and* pleasing to God, **which is your spiritual service of worship.**