

MANY MEMBERS IN ONE BODY

Romans 12:3-8

INTRODUCTION:

- A. God's people should worship Him verse 1
  - 1) They should be motivated by love
  - 2) They should offer themselves as a living sacrifice
  - 3) This would be, "intelligent worship"
  
- B. God's people should be a changed people verse 2
  - 1) They should not conform to this world
  - 2) They should be transformed
  - 3) They should renew their minds
  
- C. What happens now? What will these persons do? Where will they serve God?
  - 1) These people are a part of a body
  - 2) This body is God's chosen institution
  - 3) Jesus organized it and gave it power
  - 4) These people are to function according to their gift.  
Not everyone has the same gift.
  
- I. No Man Was To Over Evaluate His Importance
  - A. *"For I say, through the grace given me, to every man that is among you,"*
    - 1) "I speak by the authority of my office"
    - 2) "I tell everyone of your number"
  
  - B. *"not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think"*
    - 1) *"think"* = υπερ = "over" + φρονηω = "to be minded" = "to think overly much of one's self, to be high-minded"
    - 2) "Not to estimate himself above his real value"



C. *"but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith"*

- 1) *"soberly"* = εις = unto το, the σωφρονειν  
"so as to have a sound judgment or estimate"
- 2) *"dealt"* = μεριζω = "to distribute", "to divide out"
- 3) *"measure"* = μετρον = "that by which anything is measured", "a measure or rule"
- 4) *"faith"* = πιστις = "firm persuasion", "the convictions we have because we have heard and believe what God has said"
- 5) *"but try to have a true estimate of your value, measuring your worth by how much faith God has imparted to you"*

II. The Church Is Many Members In One Body *verse 4 - 5*

A. *"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office"*

- 1) *"members"* = μελος = "a limb or member of the body"
- 2) *"body"* = σωμα = "the body as a whole"
- 3) *"office"* = πραξις = "a doing, action", "something done", "also something to be done", "function"

B. *"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another"*

- 1) *"So we, being individually numerous, are, in Christ, one body"*
- 2) *"and each member is a part of every other member" Each function relates to the function of the entire body.*

III. Each Member of the Body Must Function According to the Gift Given Him *verse 6 - 8*

A. *"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given us,"*

- 1) "gifts" = χαρισμα = "that which is freely given",  
"a gift of grace"
- 2) "differing" = διαφορος = "different", "various",  
"diverse"
- 3) "The gifts we possess differ as they are allotted to us  
by God's grace..." NEB

B. "...whether prophesy, let us prophesy according to the  
proportion of faith;"

- 1) "prophesy" = προφητεια = "a speaking forth",  
"prophetic declarations, exhortations, warnings,  
uttered by the prophets while under divine influence,  
and referring either to the past, present or future"
- 2) "proportion" = αναλογια = "equality of ratios,  
analogy"
- 3) "In direct proportion to the degree of faith God has  
allotted to him"

C. "Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering"

- 1) "ministry" = διακονια = "ministry", The word  
indicates a personal ministry done in service of  
another. The labor of the ministerial office.
- 2) "If your gift is that of serving others, serve them  
well"

D. "or he that teacheth, on teaching;"

- 1) "teacheth" = διδασκαλια = "teaching", "instruction"
- 2) "teaching" = κατα = "according to" + διδαχη =  
"the teaching", "let the teacher give himself to  
teaching" Mon.

E. "or he that exhorteth, on exhortation:"

- 1) "exhorteth" = παρακαλεω = "to call to one",  
"encourage"

- 2) "and if your gift be the stimulating of the faith of others let us set ourselves to it"

F. *"he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity"*

- 1) "giveth" = μεταδιδωμι = "to share with someone"
- 2) "simplicity" = απλοτης = "sincerity", "generously"

It refers to open-handed and open-hearted giving out of compassion and singleness of purpose, not from ambition

- 3) If God has given you money, be generous in helping others with it. Tay.

G. *"he that ruleth, with diligence;"*

- 1) "ruleth" = προιστημι = "to stand before", "to stand on the first place", "to preside"
- 2) "diligence" = σπουδη = "speed", "haste", "as manifested in earnestness, diligence, zeal"
- 3) "If you are a leader, exhort yourself to lead" NEB

H. *"he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness"*

- 1) "mercy" = ελεσω = "to have the desire of relieving the miserable and striving to do it"
- 2) "cheerfulness" = ιλαροτης = "joyous"
- 3) "If God has given you the gift of imparting mercy, impart it with a shining face"

