1**Therefore** I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your **bodies** a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* ["which is" or that is"?] your spiritual service of worship. 2And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

3For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. 4For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly:* if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

9*Let* love *be* without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. 10*Be* devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.

14Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. 17Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace [ειρηνην] with all men. 19Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath *of God,* for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. [Deuteronomy 32:35] 20"BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD."[Proverbs 25:21-22] 21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1-2 What the implication of all that has gone before:

- **Urged** by God's mercy
- **Present** our bodies as a living/holy sacrifice
- **Acceptable** to God
- **Worship:** spiritual service (this living sacrifice)

***Con*formed Not** to this world
But *Trans*formed by the renewal of our mind
Thus knowing the will of God which is:

- Good,
- Acceptable,
- Perfect.

Q What is the purpose of our worship?
Q How is our worship manifested?

3-13 Why is Paul reminding us of the practical issues of getting along, right after this lofty and wonderful description of what we are supposed to be?

3 Who allots the measure of faith to each individual? So what?

6-13 Given these many gifts, all of which are given on the basis of God's grace, how are we to deploy these gifts?

9 How can one love with hypocrisy? What's Paul talking about here?

9-13 Provide a **behavioral** example of each of these:

1. Loving without hypocrisy.
2. Abhoring evil, or clinging to the good.
3. Devoting ourselves to each other.
4. Giving preference to one another in honor.
5. Being diligent.
6. Fervent in spirit.
7. Rejoicing in hope.
8. Persevering in tribulation.
9. Devoted to prayer.
10. Contributing to saints' needs.
11. Practicing hospitality.

14-21 Dealing with the negative among us.

14 Why are we to bless those who persecute us? Why are we not to curse them?

15 Why are we to cry with the criers, and rejoice with the "rejoicers?"

16-21 How do we do these two things?

Q Why does this work? Example?
Q If your enemy wants your child, do you give him your child to overcome the evil?
Q Then why do we give them to the Enemy so easily?