

**Series "How Great A Salvation"
"Thinking Rightly"
Romans 12:3-8
Study-34**

Thinking Rightly is Crucial To Living Rightly! Romans 12:2

Jesus Spoke Of Thinking Rightly Matthew 7:3-5

Romans 1-11 Doctrine leads to **Romans 12-16** that deals with **Duty**

Romans 12:1-21 Christian Life As A Sacrifice To God:

Thought Of Our Passage: "Thinking Rightly Regarding Oneself Leads To Thinking Rightly About Others And The Unity In God's Great Plan"

1. Verse 3 – Thinking Rightly About Ourselves:

2. Verses 4-5 – Thinking Rightly About Others:

3. Verses 6-8 – Thinking Rightly About Gifts:

1. Verse 3 – Thinking Rightly About Ourselves:

Romans 12:3 For - Context – Paul has just said full surrender to God is the logical response to what God has done through salvation. Full surrender to God naturally leads to us seeing self, others, and the diversity of gifts accurately.

Romans 12:1-2 which is your spiritual service of worship –
rational ("logical") intelligent

grace – "**God's Resources At Christ's Expense, the unmerited favor of God in our lives**" Paul's grace was apostleship to the Gentiles (Authority), Paul as a servant is being used (Example).

Paul never forgot how God touched him. **1 Timothy 1:12-17**

everyone – *term meaning all people.*

Exaggerated Thinking, Overthink: not to think more highly of himself Literally saying, "*do not super-think of yourself, or do not get hyper about yourself, be sane, not insanity*"

than he ought to think; Why would Paul have to mention thinking too highly of our selves? Because that is what we do.

**Ephesians 5:29 for no one ever hated his own flesh;
Philippians 2:3-5**

Wrong thinking can happen in 2 ways:

- 1. Overestimate Our Importance: Bragging About Oneself.**
- 2. Depreciate Though False Humility: Talking Oneself Down.**

Webster's Dictionary defines **Esteem, Self-esteem** – "*having a high regard, a favorable impression of oneself, an exaggeratedly favorable impression of oneself*"

James 4:1-2

Proper Thinking: but to think so as to have sound judgment,
literally "*to be in one's right mind*" **2 Corinthians 5:13, Mark 5:15**

When we see who God really is (Grace & Mercy) we then see ourselves and humbly accept this truth, only then can we begin to think soundly.

a measure of faith. measure – "*a limited portion (degree), standard of the spiritual power of faith*" With the special grace is a special measure of faith to accomplish the God given tasks.

Matthew 5:3 *Happy is the person that realizes that they have nothing in themselves to commend themselves to God!*

1. We will stop comparing ourselves with others.
2. Will not be inflated by the opinion of self.

2. Verses 4-5 – Thinking Rightly About Others:

Romans 12:4 For just This word takes us back to what Paul said in **Romans 12:3** That right thinking of ourselves with Jesus Christ as the standard

Paul reveals 3 truths about thinking of others rightly in the church:

1. Unity - as we have many members in one body

Ephesians 4:3

John 15:5; 17:21-23

The "Universal Church" made up of all that are truly born again.
"Church" Greek word ekklesia - *the called out, the separated ones*

The "Local Church" or "Church Fellowship"

made up of believers in a given area. We see this all through the NT

- 2. Diversity - and all the members do not have the same function,**
With the real unity there is also a real diversity.

Unity is not necessarily conformity. Unity is through diversity!

do not have the same function

We are not like others and others don't have to be like us.

Romans 12:5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ,

Paul uses the illustration of the body **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**

There is unity and also diversity.

- 3. Mutuality - and individually members one of another.**

We are connected to each other though we are all so different.

3. Verses – 6-8 Thinking Rightly About Gifts:

Romans 12:6 Since we have gifts that differ

Each Christian has at least one gift.

1 Corinthians 12:7 But to each one is given

each of us is to exercise them accordingly:

Paul lists 7 of these graces and how they should be used.

3 basic lists in Scripture that speak about the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

(1.) 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 27-30

(2.) Romans 12:3-8,

(3.) Ephesians 4:4-16

Paul Lists 7 Graces, and Their Proper Use:

- (1.) Preaching - if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; Prophecy – root word "to cause to shine" to take the Word of God and make it shine not foretelling, but forth telling – immediate proclamation of God's Word through human lips! Affects the heart and the will, Telling the whole counsel of God - proclaiming the Word of God!**

1 Corinthians 14:3 Edification, (Build up) Exhortation, (encourage) Consolation (console) More the heart and the will.

Romans 12:7

- (2.) **Serving - if service, in his serving;** the word **serving** - we get the word "Ministry" we get the word "Deacon" - service within the church - attending to the needs of others. It is serving in any capacity to attend to others!
- (3.) **Teaching - or he who teaches, in his teaching;** The interpreting of revealed truth, importing the truth of God, the making of divine truth understandable - for the mind, exposition - bringing it home - practical **1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Peter 4:10-11** This is more the mind.

Romans 12:8

- (4.) **Exhorting - or he who exhorts, in his exhortation;** Applying truth through encouragement, appeal to the conscience and will (get going)
- (5.) **Giving - he who gives, with liberality; simplicity** - *Idea of no hidden motive, all the heart. That there is no other motive than to bless!*
- (6.) **Leading - he who leads, "to lead and care for, managing - administrating" with diligence;** (Lit) "*standing before diligence - in eagerness, earnestness, zeal, not lazy or half hearted*"

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

- (7.) **Mercy - he who shows mercy,** Care for sick, distressed, poor, afflicted, sorrowing - work of visitor. **with cheerfulness.**
Proverbs 17:22

Application:

1. Thinking Rightly About Ourselves Comes From The Result Of Seeing Jesus As The Standard. We Can Then See Ourselves Accurately Accepting God's Gift And The Measure Of Faith.
2. Thinking Rightly About Others: God Gives **Unity** - Many Members In One Body; **Diversity** - All The Members Do Not Have The Same Function; **Mutuality** - Individually Members One Of Another:
3. Thinking Rightly About Gifts: The Gifts That God Gives Differ According To The Grace Given To Us. Each One Of Us Should Exercise Our God Given Gift To The Fullest As Unto To The Lord: