

Series: *Seeing how Jesus is your salvation will stir your love for him.*

**OFFERING OUR BODIES DAILY PLEASES GOD
AND DISPLAYS HIS GRACE TO OUR NEIGHBORS**

ONE: By his mercy in Christ God delivers his own from the former age into the arriving age. Romans 12.1-2 ; 13.11-14

mercy

this world=this age (that walks, lives evaluates according to the flesh)

TWO: Therefore present your bodies as a living sacrifice. Romans 12.1

bodies (plural); *sacrifice* (singular)

THREE: When your head & heart are in sync with Christ's resurrection you and your deeds are a delight to God. Romans 12.2

FOUR: Christ's new body demonstrates the good, pleasing, perfect will of God! Eph 2; Romans 12.2-21

a mercy offering!

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1. List some ways the mercies of God are displayed in Romans 1-11.
2. What can happen to our motivation for sacrificial living if we lose sight of being part of a kingdom that arrived with Christ's resurrection and will one day be made complete (cf., Romans 8.18-24)?
3. To what degree do you and believers you know think regularly that we have been transferred from the former age (that walked according to the flesh) into the new one where we walk and evaluate by God's grace and mercy (in the Spirit)?
4. While believers can do nothing to justify ourselves before God, Paul says God is pleased with the deeds of those who love him and walk by faith. See Romans 12.1-2; 2 Cor 5.9; Gal 1.10; Philippians 4.18; 1 Thes 2.4. Spend some time praying with someone giving thanks that you are accepted by grace, but appreciated for what you do as well.
5. What are concrete ways you can offer your body as a living sacrifice this week (e.g., your fingers dialing the phone, your tongue, your labor or wages, your presence with someone hurting; your mercy with someone struggling with sin,...)?
6. Why is the world (those who know only the former age) more impressed when the church is a community of mercy than with mercy from individuals? How does this fit with Ephesians 2 & Romans 9-12?