

• • TRANSCRIPT

• August 16th 2026 "Sweet Submission To The Savior"

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Romans chapter twelve It is a very popular place. And it's good to see everybody. I want to thank those who are watching by internet live stream. And we've been having problems with our proclaim program, but I think they got it all fixed. So if you have your Bibles, please stand with me. Romans chapter 12, looking at the beginning of the verse of the chapter. Romans chapter 12, beginning in verse 1, the Bible says, I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove. What is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Let's pray. Father, we thank you. For your word. We thank you for the cross. We thank you for the blood of Jesus. Most of all, we thank you for your mercy upon us. And Father, we don't deserve anything. And father, but still. You pour your grace upon us, you bless us in many ways. And Father, help us to recognize your mercy and your love, and may it challenge us, may it drive us to live for you in this crooked world. I ask you now, Lord, that you would speak to every heart, that you would give them something from this message that they could hold on for all eternity. And this I pray in Jesus' name, amen.

You can be seated at this time. And again, what a blessing. The beginning of the book of Romans is all doctrinal. But then it turns from doctrinal and then it turns to what to do about all that. And today as we look at Romans chapter 12, here in verse 1 and 2 We see how this begins to present submission as the believers reasonably worship in response to God's mercy. And that's what we're seeing here. Think of that. God has given us and showed us mercy. And once we understand that as it says in Romans chapter 12, it says, I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

So as we look at submission, submission means surrendering and giving yourself fully to God. Also, submission is rejecting the world's pull and receiving the Spirit's renewing work that will shape your life for God's will. And I believe this is exactly what God wants us to do. He wants us to know His word and then live out His word in the power of the Holy Spirit. So, as we look here at Romans chapter 12, and I want to focus on this submission. The scripture consistently reinforces the pattern of a joyful, submissive heart to God after salvation.

So we're going to look at that. We see in Romans chapter 12, verse 1, we see sweet submission to the Savior is rooted in God's mercies. Look at it again. It says I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God. And when I look at this, I see that Paul begins with the, by the mercies of God, and this is the foundation of all Christian submission. This sweet submission to God is based on the mercies of

God. And what do I mean by that? Submission is never coerced. It comes from a heart that's surrendering to the goodness of God.

It's a reasonable response to God's divine compassion for the lost sinner who comes to Christ. And what a blessing to see this. You must first have tasted the mercies of God by coming to grips with Romans chapter 1 through 3, recognizing that we're a sinner and that there's nothing we could ever do. And it's because of God's mercy he sent his son to die and then be buried and then be raised again the third day. And what was that for the remission of sin? That was God showing us mercy. And I like where it says and I like what it says in Titus chapter 3, verse 5.

The Bible says, Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy, he saved us by the washing and regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost. And what happens is once we understand that we're sinners and judgment is upon us and when we look at the cross and we look at the love of God towards man by sending Jesus to the cross and shedding his blood for you and I, and we respond by faith, knowing there's nothing we could ever do. You know, a lot of times religion is a workspace that's what religion is. But biblical. Christianity is what? It's already been done. And this is the mercy of God, Him withholding, think of this, the judgment that we really deserve. That's mercy. And once we understand that, what happens? We begin to look at God with a humble heart, a gracious heart.

A thankful heart. And when we look back at Romans chapter 12, verse 1, it says, I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, wholly acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Because of the mercy of God and what He's done for us, it causes us to submit ourselves to Him. And it's not by. What? It's not by power of coercion. It's by a heart that's recognizing how good God is. And now think, think of this. Now that you're on your way to heaven, praise God for that. And it's not because you earned it. It's because God showed you mercy. Amen. And this is the spirit that I believe the Christian. Walk, the Christian life, and service is all about. It's when we understand the mercy of God upon us. And I like to call it sweet submission. And this sweet submission flows from a heart of gratitude. Man, think of that. You know, whenever I think of all the things I've done and how God has graciously showed me mercy. Amen. And that's the question that the psalmist had in Psalm 116. Verse 12, the psalmist says, what shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits towards me?

Look at that. All his benefits, all his blessings towards me, all his grace he's poured upon me. What shall I render unto the Lord? That's the key. When you come to understanding. And here in Romans chapter 12 and verse 1, sweet submission to the Savior is by presenting yourself unto God. You know, it's the same thing. We have nothing to give Him, He has it all. But yet there's one thing He's looking for. You and I to say, Here, Lord, here am I. Amen. And to live for him. And we are told to present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice.

Turn with me if you're still in Romans chapter 12. Turn with me to Romans 6. Look in Romans chapter 6, verse 13. And again, we're looking at presenting yourself unto God. In Romans chapter 6, verse 13,

the Bible says, Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin, but yield yourself unto God as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. And here I believe. Paul uses the same word for present he's using for the word yield. Yield yourself. You know, it's almost when you come to an altar and you fall in love with your spouse and you come to the altar and you grab your partner's hands and you stand before God and all your family and friends and you present yourself.

And you're committing yourself. That's what it means. Amen. And today, you and I are committing ourselves, are yielding ourselves to unrighteousness, not living for the world, but living for Him. And when we look at this, we see what Jesus said in Luke chapter 9, verse 23, in Luke chapter 9, verse 23, Jesus says, and he said unto them all, 'If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me' It's the same thing. There's commitment there. There's presenting yourself and saying, 'Lord, I now come to you' Amen.

I take up my cross. Now, what's the cross? The cross is whatever comes your way. Whatever comes Your way, you're still committed. And what does that mean? That means submission. So, as we look at this, submission is something that's daily. It's daily, it's not occasional, but daily. And I know a lot of times, you know, as we live our Christian walk, sometimes we're not living, sometimes we're not committed, sometimes we're not daily walking. But this is the whole thing. We need to understand that we need to present our bodies to the Lord and say, Here I am. And what does this mean as a living sacrifice? I believe it's surrender. Amen. Have you gotten to the point where you've surrendered all? And you say, Lord, I surrender all. You have shown me mercy. When I deserve judgment. You've poured upon me grace when I didn't deserve it.

But yet you graced me. You've blessed me. All I can do is that Psalmist said, what shall I render unto the Lord? Well, He wants you. Will you surrender? You know, most missionaries, the first thing they do is they've been moved by the Spirit of God in their Heart, God's calling them to surrender, to allow God to use them in a mighty way. And no matter where it is, we know it's in Hungary. Amen. God could call you anywhere, God could call you right in your own home because all He's looking for is you to surrender. Once He won the Surrender. Once you understand, that what God's showing you mercy, and when you truly understand this, there's a sweet submission to the Lord that happens. It's not something like, oh, I got to do this. You know, that's not the same spirit that God's looking for. Amen? He's looking from a place of gratitude. And how many times? When you look, and I hate to say this, but I believe America is so stinking. I don't want to offend anybody. America is so stinking. Should I say it? Prideful. Me, Look at me! And say, instead of bowing your head down and saying, Lord, use me.

Amen? We come and we want everything our way. You know, we have big churches. That focus not on the Word of God, but on the worship of God, which is beautiful, it's great. But sometimes it's all from the flesh and not from the Spirit. God wants to deal with your spirit and let you know how much He loves you and what He's done for you. And He wants you to take that and then say, Lord, hear am I, use me. Not just come to a service and be entertained and then go home and be the same way. And today, what does it mean to be a living sacrifice? It means to surrender, it means offering your entire life, your

actions, your habits, your relationships, your decisions as living sacrifices to Him. You know, one of the things You do when you go into the military is you sign on the dotted line your life is not yours anymore.

It's the United States government. Amen. They send you where they want to send you, they put you through tremendous stress and sacrifices. Why? Because you sign that. On that dotted line. And it's the same thing with the Lord he's calling you He's saying if you recognize that the blood of Jesus has given you the remission of your sin No more penalty upon you because of what I poured upon Jesus and when you understand that that is what turns you to say, Lord, I'm a sinner and you showed me Mercy. What can I do to show my gratitude back to you?

And he says, lay down your life for me as a living sacrifice. You know, a sacrifice is always laid down dead, amen? But we get a perfect example of a living sacrifice. Back in Genesis chapter 22, we see Abraham bringing his son Isaac. To Mount Moriah. And recognize the fact that Abraham was old at this time. He was very old, and his son Isaac was a strong, a strong young man. But what happened? You see the submission of the son to the will of his father that he was willingly ready to go and lay down his life on that altar. He was as, listen, he was as if he was dead. Thank God, God sent the ram caught in the thicket in his place. But look at the heart of Isaac, surrendering to the will of the Father, that he willingly laid down his life on that altar. We see that with the Lord Jesus, another living sacrifice. Why? Because he did get sacrificed. He did die on that cross, but he's alive again. Amen. If you want to really live for Christ, you need to die to self. The question is are we willing to die to self?

And you know Either self. And you know, if you're saved today, raise your hand if you're saved. Raise your hand. Do you know that the blood of Jesus paid for your penalty of your sin? You know, it says in 1 Corinthians 6, verse 20, it says, for ye are bought with a price. And what's that price? The shed blood of Jesus. Ye are bought with a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God's. He claims you. And when you receive the Lord Jesus, it's like coming to the altar. You become his bride, he's the groom, and you grab his hands and what you present yourself.

I am now committed to you. Amen. This is the spirit that we must always carry. You should take that attitude towards work, towards your ministry, towards anything that you do. You must take that attitude and say, God, I am yours. Amen. This is where God wants you to be. This is what I call sweet submission because it's not coercion it's not pushed, it's not pressured, it comes from a place of gratitude and thankfulness for what God has done for you, and that's what I'm talking about the sweet submission to the Savior. That's what He wants.

Paul sets a beautiful example as He writes in the book of Galatians. In Galatians chapter 2, verse 20, I believe most of you understand or have heard this. In Galatians chapter 2, verse 20, the Apostle Paul writes, I am crucified with Christ. Nevertheless, I live. Yet not I, but Christ liveth in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Can you see the attitude that the Apostle Paul is using here? He's saying he's been crucified.

He's now dead. His life, all his desires, all his plans for his life, he threw down and said, Lord, that's not me anymore. Thy will shall be done now. I'm here to tell you when you get to that sweet submission, your whole life will change. And one

One of the things, sweet submission to the Savior. My third point is rejects the world's mold. Turn with me back to Romans, Romans chapter 12. Look at back in Romans chapter 12. Look what it says in Romans chapter 12, verse 2. It says, and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. So sweet submission to the Savior is rejecting the world's mold. Well, what does that look like? Well, that's all the music that the world's putting out.

That's all the mindset that the world is pushing. You know, you're going to either be brainwashed by the world or Transformed by the Spirit. Do you know that? And there's a cost to that. When you stand for truth and when you live for Christ, everyone sees it. And what does that mean? That means when you look and you give your life as a living sacrifice to God and you lay down. And you reject the world's mold, the world's thinking, the world's actions, and you lay it out and push that aside, you stand out. And God wants you to stand out with truth, with holiness, and with love.

This is the key. But what does this require? It requires submission requires a deliberate rejection of the world's values and priorities and identity forming pressures. Yes. We had one that was, I believe, he was assassinated for it Charlie Kirk. He went to all the universities and he was going against the world view of how to live and what you should do. And he rejected it all. And he stood up. With what? With love. And he spoke truth. And I believe it caused cost him his life. And I believe that's what Jesus says pick up your cross and follow me daily.

Turn with me to 1 Peter. 1 Peter says it this way in 1 Peter chapter 1, verse 14. It says, as obedient children fashioning yourselves according to the former lust of your ignorance, but as he which had called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation. And that word conversation means lifestyle. Because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy. You know, you can't submit to God while being shaped by the world. He's calling you out of the world. He wants to transform you and then send you back in the world as light and salt. Also, turn to 1 John. 1 John chapter 2. Here, look what it says in verse. 15. This is again rejecting the world mode. Here in 1 John chapter 2, verse 15, the Bible says, Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.

If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof. But he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. See where that will of God is again? Submission cannot coexist with love for the world, it can't. And when I say the world, I'm. Not talking, I'm talking about the world system, what the world is pushing on you and I. And then lastly, sweet submission to the Savior, delight in God's will.

This is where God wants you to be. It delights in God's will, turn back to Romans chapter 12 and verse 2 again it says and be not confused Conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. You know, sweet submission aligns the heart so deeply with God that His will becomes their joy. You realize that. How many times you see someone Do you see somebody who's so focused, so in love with Christ, so humbled that God will show them mercy that there's a joy about them? That their whole life is turned around and they're living for Jesus like never before, doing his will and not theirs. You can see it. That's why I love getting around people that when they first get saved, because you see it there. They get saved, they recognize that God has showed them mercy and God has forgiven them and God has now shown how much he loved them and they recognized it and all of a sudden their whole life has changed. They're walking around with joy, they got a smile on their face.

Amen. Boy, I love when you get around new believers. They're excited. And then what happens? Life comes. Pressure comes. The world's trying to put them back in that mold. It's getting hard. They get distracted. They haven't learned to live in the spirit and not in the flesh. And then slowly but surely if they're not disciplined, they go right back. Yeah, they're saved. But one of the first things you notice is they lose their joy. Psalm chapter 40, verse 8 says this I delight to do thy will, O my God. Yea, thy law is within my heart.

Isn't that amazing when you hear it like that? I delight to do thy will. Why? Because thy law is within my heart. They had a heart change. And I want to encourage you today how to get in that place before God where you can say from your own personal testimony God, your will for my life is what I now live for. I lay down my life for you. I present my body as a living sacrifice to do your will, oh God. It's amazing when you get in that place. Yes, you'll have problems. Yes, you'll have stress.

Yes, your friends and family and all that will try to get you back to how you were before. Amen. You was before. Amen. And I see God always saying to every one of us who's given our lives to him, I see God saying in Proverbs 23, verse 26. He says, My son, give me thine heart. " and let thine eyes observe my ways. When did you like to get back there? Was you ever there? Did you say to yourself, Lord, you died for me, I'm willing to live for you. Was that you? Did that flame begin to flicker out? You can get it back. You can get that shit submission to the Savior back. All you have to do is come back. You know, many, couples, 25 years, 50 years, 60 years, they, what do they do? They come back and they recommit. I mean, they still love each other. They're still there. But what they are doing is they're coming back and presenting themselves. They're saying, I never forgot. And they come back and they say, all these years, I've presented myself. I've committed to you. And I want to show you again. I'm still committed.

You know, that's what God was looking for. Sweet submission is not bondage. It's when you, from your own will and your own heart, say, Lord, I submit everything to you my plans, my desires, my love. You're first in my life. And I lay down my life and I reject the world's mold. And I come to you, you mold me Lord, the way you would want. Is that where you're at today? 'Cause if you're not, you can get there. All you have to say is, Lord, forgive me, help me. Give me back the desire I had when I first was

saved. God, I've been lingering. I've been wandering. I've been coasting away from you. But Lord, help me to get back. Why don't we stand? I think it's Psalm 51 with David is ready to give me his.

To get back his joy. Amen. If you're missing your joy for the Lord, why don't you start counting your blessings and name them one by one and recognize how much God loves you and how much he's blessed you. But most of all How much mercy he has shown you. And once we understand that, we can always say, Lord, here am I. Father. We thank you. For this message, Lord. Father, I pray, as the Apostle Paul says, I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice. Lord, help us. Help us to be that living sacrifice. Help us to recognize the mercies of God not giving us what we deserve. And Lord, from a grateful heart, help us to say, Lord, send me. Fill me, use me. I give my life back to you as a living sacrifice, which is my reasonable service. And this I pray in Jesus' name, amen.