

Seminar No. 12
Romans 12
“Living The Transformed Life”

Step 1. Memorise: Romans 12:1-2

Step 2. Study the following Scripture:

- Rom. 12:1-21; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; 1 Pet. 1: 13-21; Col. 3:1-17, and the reading Assignments in light of these following themes, potential outcomes or questions.

Step 3. Exegete Romans 12:2

- As the primary Scripture portion assigned to this lesson.

Step 4.

- Discuss the relationship of mind and body to transformed living. (Rom. 12:1-21; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; 1 Pet. 1: 13-21; Col. 3:1-17).
- Explain how transformed living relates to redemption.
- Discuss how transformed living impacts one's influence over other people.

Supplementary Notes Seminar 12

Even while Israel resists God's plan centered in Messiah, the Lord is at work bringing Gentiles to salvation. Gentile salvation really depends on Israel's covenant relationship with God, as Paul illustrated with the olive tree. The salvation of Gentiles in the present age not only magnifies the grace of God, but it will also provoke Israel to jealousy and lead her ultimately to return to the Lord. (Notes: T. Constable)

11:11 Another rhetorical question marks another advance in the movement of Paul's thought. The stumbling of Israel did not result in a hopeless fall (cf. 9:32–33; 11:9). God now deals with Gentiles on the same basis as Jews regarding their salvation because Israel as a whole rejected Jesus Christ. One reason God chose to do this was to make Israel jealous of the Gentiles as the recipients of God's blessings so Israel would turn back to God.

11:12 Paul here anticipated the national repentance of Israel that he articulated later (v. 26). God promised to bless the world through Israel (Gen. 12:1–3). How much more blessing will come to the world when Israel turns back to God than is coming to the world now while she is in rebellion against God! “While *pleroma* probably has a qualitative denotation —‘fullness’—the context and the parallel with v. 25 suggest that this ‘fullness’ is attained through a numerical process. Paul would then be

suggesting that the present 'defeat' of Israel, in which Israel is numerically reduced to a small remnant, will be reversed by the addition of far greater numbers of true believers: this will be Israel's destined 'fullness. 11:13–14 Here Paul applied what he had said earlier to his own ministry. By evangelizing Gentiles Paul was causing more Jews to become jealous of God's blessings on Gentile converts. He was thereby playing a part in bringing some Jews to faith. The Gentiles are not saved merely for their own sake, but for the sake of God's election of Israel. However strange it may sound, the way to salvation of Israel is by the mission to the Gentiles.