



# The Book of Romans

## How to be Right with God

(Romans 12:3-8)

## Review:

- How did God create?
- Words have meaning and meaning originates in God
- God's word is the standard of meaning
- This destroys neutrality between DVP and HVP
- HVP takes a closed eyed approach
- Not creating a universal above God

## Summary/Application

- Emotions will not transform you they will conform you.
- Rationalism will not transform you it will conform you.
  
- Only the living and active Word of God can transform you.

The Practical Application from our Justification:

(Romans 12:3-8)

*“The formula for growth in the local church”*

## Outline:

1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3
2. The Local Body's Unity vv. 4-5
3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

## 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

### Observation:

- “For I say” (a reminder of Paul’s authority and person)
- “through the grace given to me” (given the context I think this is speaking of his Spiritual gift as an Apostle)

## 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

### Observation:

- “Spiritual gifts are a supernatural ability given to a believer at the time of salvation enabling him in a special way to minister to the body of Christ in the area of that gift.” – Dave Kummer

## 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

### Observation:

- “For I say” (a reminder of Paul’s authority and person)
- “through the grace given to me” (given the context I think this is speaking of his Spiritual gift as an Apostle)
- “to everyone who is among you” (this is an address to all believers... this needs to be stressed... it is NOT an elite group)



# 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

## Observation:

- “not to think too highly of oneself than what is necessary to think” -JPH
  - Don't think too highly
  - Than what is necessary (this subtly reinforces what Paul said about our identity in ch. 6-8)
- “rather to think in order to be sensible” – JPH

# 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

## Observation:

- “not to think too highly of oneself than what is necessary to think” -JPH
- “rather to think in order to be sensible” – JPH
- “as God has dealt out a measure of faith to each” -JPH
  - Faith in this context is related to the exercise of the gifts. So it is used in a sense related to Christian practice. I.e. our faith is to be used as we walk by faith.

## 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

### Observation:

- “The faith in view in this verse, and in verse 6, seems to refer to one's ability to view and use his or her gifts as abilities that God has given.”

Tom Constable, Tom Constable's Expository Notes on the Bible (Galaxie Software, 2003), Ro 12:3.

# 1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3

## Summary/Application:

- Cf. 1 Peter 4:10
- Cf. 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11; 12-27

## Outline:

1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3
2. The Local Body's Unity vv. 4-5
3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

## 2. The Local Body's Unity vv. 4-5

### Observation:

- We are many members v. 4a
- We have differing functions v. 4b
- We are one in Christ v. 5a
- We are members of one another v. 5b

## 2. The Local Body's Unity vv. 4-5

### Summary/Application:

- The individual believer grows according to vv. 1-2.
- The individual believer is uniquely gifted with a spiritual gift
- The gifts are intended for the corporate growth of the body
- Each individual is responsible to serve in their spiritual gift
- Each individual is responsible to serve other believers with their spiritual gift
- When this happens the local church will experience growth.

## Outline:

1. The Local Body's Attitude v. 3
2. The Local Body's Unity vv. 4-5
3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8



### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “Having then differing gifts”
- “according to the grace that is given to us”  
Grace because these gifts lead to the edifying of the body but also the rewards of each individual believer.
- “let us use them” (not in the Greek)

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “whether prophecy, according to the proportion of the faith;”
- Prophecy is a noun rather than a verb participle like the rest. (Adjectival)
- There are two categories then that Paul lists for gifts in this text. This is the first one. (cf. 1 Peter 4:11)

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “Prophecy = Forth telling, and Foretelling. It is emphasizing specifically the receiving of direct revelation from God.
- This gift is no longer in function with the close of the canon. This is because God has revealed all that He intended to reveal. So, by way of secondary application, we can extrapolate here. If you are handling God’s revelation, do so according to the proportion of the faith.”

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “whether service, by serving,”
  - Service is a noun rather than listed a verb participle like the rest. (Adjectival)
  - This is the second category.

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “whether teachers, by the teaching,”
  - “teachers” is a verb participle and used in an adjectival sense. It is describing the person with the gift.
  - Teacher = διδάσκων (where we get the English word didactic.)
  - If you have this gift it is to be exercised in the teaching. (cf. James 3:1)

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “whether exhorters, by exhorting,”
  - “exhorters” is a verb participle and used in an adjectival sense.
  - Exhorters = παρακαλῶν
  - Compound word to call alongside.
  - The same root is used in verse 1 “I urge you”

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “whether exhorters, by exhorting,”
  - “This gift then seems to suggest the calling other believers to growth and pure living.
  - I think the other usage of this gift also includes the encouraging believers that are discouraged.
  - If you have this gift, it is to be exercised in your exhortation. (implied “by faith”)

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “the givers, with generosity,”
  - “givers” is a verb participle and used in an adjectival sense.
  - Giver = to give or to share.
  - The qualifier is the giver is to give with generosity.
  - If you have this gift, it is to be exercised in excess. (implied “by faith”)



### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “the leaders, with diligence,”
  - “leaders” is a verb participle and used in an adjectival sense.
  - Leaders = one who leads or rules.
  - Compound word... lit. to stand in front or before.
  - The qualifier is the leader is to lead with diligence.
  - Diligence implies care, expedience, and humility.
  - If you have this gift, it is to be exercised and with the consideration that you will face THE Ruler.

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Observation:

- “the merciful ones, with cheerfulness.”
  - “The merciful ones” = one who is compassionate.
  - The qualifier is the merciful one shows mercy with cheerfulness.
  - Cheerfulness = the general attitude of happiness of pleasure in showing mercy.
  - If you have this gift show mercy with cheerfulness because it is the exact approach Christ takes with sinners.

### 3. The Local Body's Gifts vv. 6-8

#### Summary/Application:

- Believers are gifted.
- Believers are responsible for using their gifts.
- Gifts are for the edification of all believers.
- Gifts are to be exercised in faith and dependence on God.

