

Romans

SERMON SERIES

# Romans



A HOPE SERMON SERIES

Romans



LIVING IN  
COMMUNITY

**This Week's Sermon:**  
*A Living Sacrifice: Total Transformation*  
Romans 12:1-2



## Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.  
2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

# Follow the Verbs

# Romans 12:1-2

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**Follow the Verbs**

**Indicative to Imperative**

The imperative of a transformed life is therefore not an optional second step after we embrace the gospel: it is rooted in and, indeed, part of the gospel itself. The good news that God is reconciling our sinful world to himself in Christ is revealed, among other ways, in people who display the power of that reconciling work in daily living. To eliminate this part of Romans would be therefore to omit an indispensable dimension of the gospel.

Moo, D. J. (2018). *The Letter to the Romans*. (N. B. Stonehouse, F. F. Bruce, G. D. Fee, & J. B. Green, Eds.) (Second Edition, p. 763). Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.



# 1. By God's Mercy

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## WORD-FOR-WORD

Formal Equivalence

## MEANING-FOR-MEANING

Closest Natural Equivalence

## THOUGHT-FOR-THOUGHT

Functional Equivalence

## PARAPHRASE

Retelling

NASB  
ESV  
KJV  
NKJV  
TRB

GW

CSB  
NIV  
NLT

NIRV  
MSG  
CEV

**CSB** Christian Standard Bible

**CEV** Contemporary English Version

**ESV** English Standard Version

**GW** GOD'S WORD Translation

**KJV** King James Version

**MSG** The Message

**NASB** New American Standard Bible

**NIRV** New International Reader's Version

**NIV** New International Version

**NKJV** New King James Version

**NLT** New Living Translation

**TRB** The Readable Bible

# Romans 12:1a (NIV)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of  
God's mercy

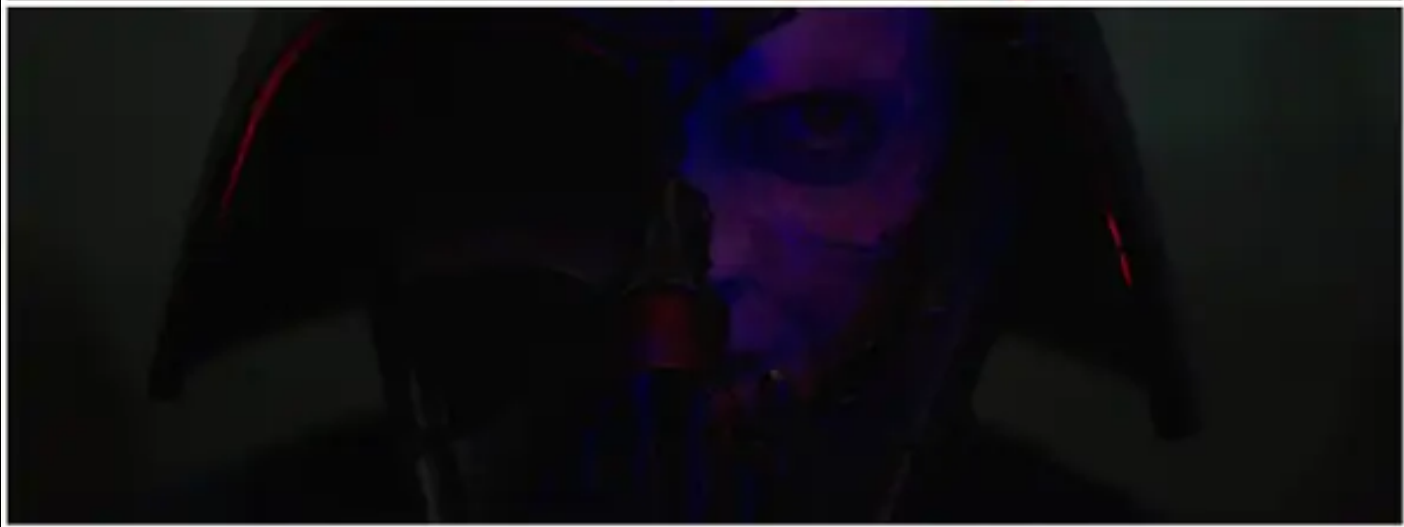
## 2. Living Sacrifice

# Romans 12:1-2

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A portrait of Obi-wan Kenobi from Star Wars. He is shown from the chest up, wearing his characteristic brown robe with a white fur collar. He has a beard and long hair, and is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. A glowing blue lightsaber is held in his right hand, extending vertically through the center of the frame. The background is a warm, textured orange and yellow, with several out-of-focus circular light sources in shades of red and yellow.

**STAR WARS**  
OBI-WAN KENOBI



# Sacrifice

*noun*

1. an act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God or to a divine or supernatural figure.
2. "they offer sacrifices to the spirits"

*verb*

1. offer or kill as a religious sacrifice.
2. "the goat was sacrificed at the shrine"

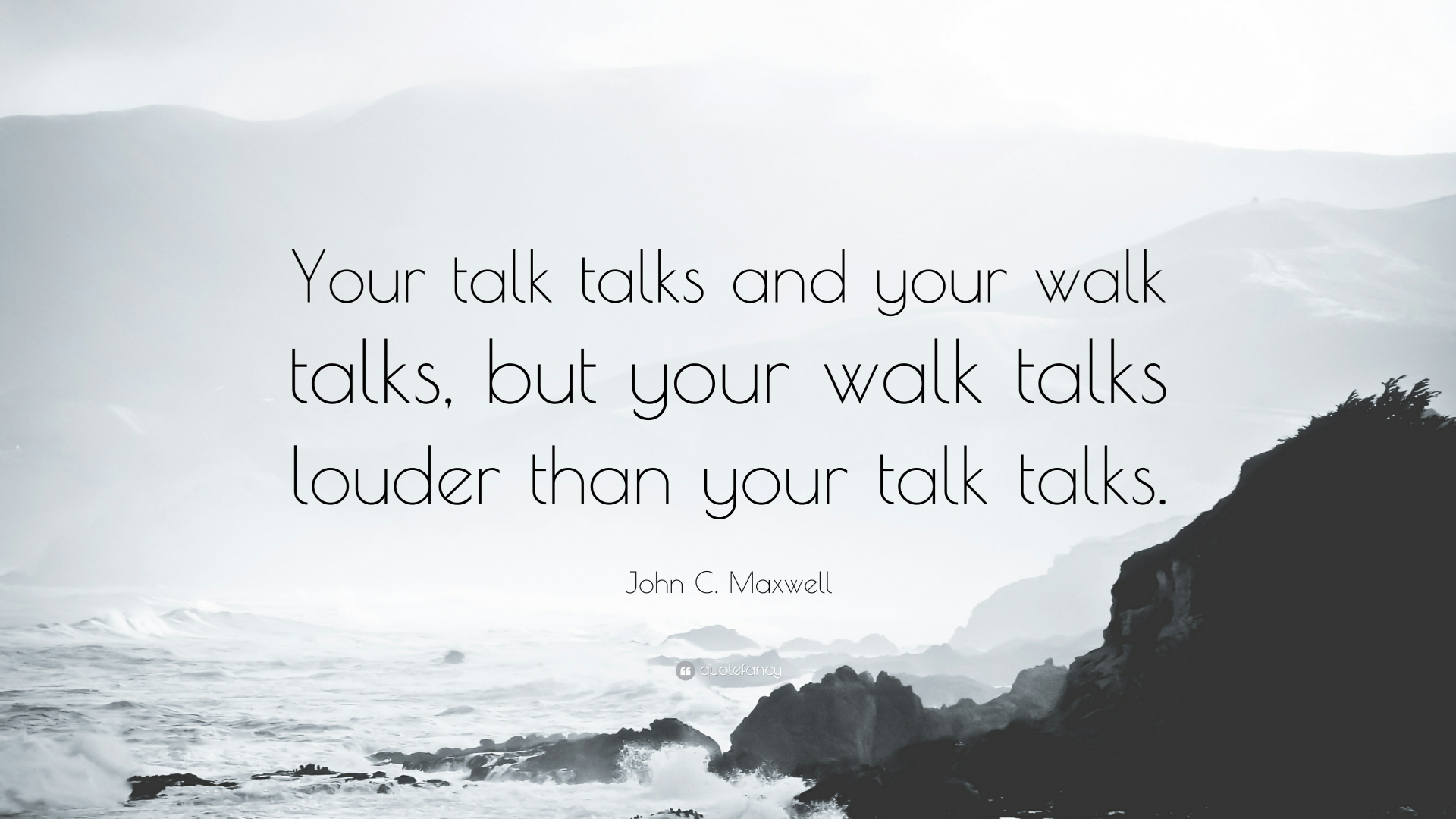
# 1 Peter 2:4-5

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup> you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



## Hebrews 13:15-16

<sup>15</sup> Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.



Your talk talks and your walk talks, but your walk talks louder than your talk talks.

John C. Maxwell

“ quote fancy

# 3. Spiritual Worship

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# What is Worship?



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God created us and built us for a relationship with him. We belong to him, and we owe him gratitude for every breath, every moment, everything. Because humans were built to live for him (to worship), we will always try to worship something – if not God, we will choose some other object of ultimate devotion to give our lives meaning.

~ Tim Keller



## 4. Don't be Worldly

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# Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

<sup>2</sup> **Do not be** conformed to this world, but **be** transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

“The renewing of your mind” is the means by which this transformation takes place. “Mind” translates a word that Paul uses especially to connote a person’s “practical reason,” or “moral consciousness.”

Christians are to adjust their way of thinking about everything in accordance with the “newness” of their life in the Spirit (see 7:6). This “reprogramming” of the mind does not take place overnight but is a lifelong process by which our way of thinking is to resemble more and more the way God wants us to think.

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**5. So how do we do this?**



**ON  
MISSION**

**IN COMMUNITY**

**GOSPEL**



## 5. So how do we do this?



Little Hopes



THE  
**HOSPITALITY**  
CENTER

# Gospel Application

What is your motivation for being a living sacrifice?