





'Karma'



'God's Plan'

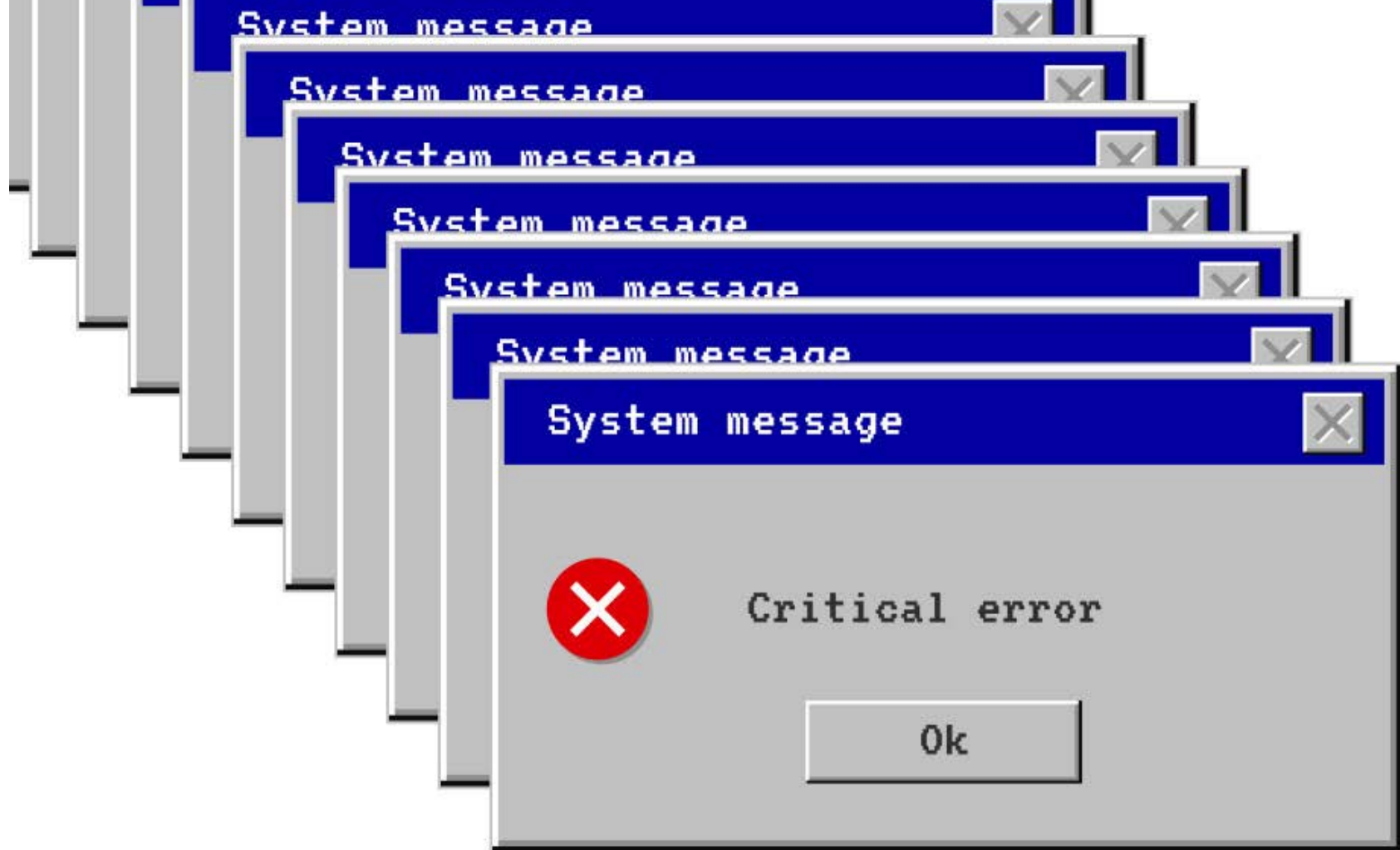
Romans



CHAPTERS 12-16

Romans 12:1-2

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.



Romans 12:1-2

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Romans 12:1-2

Critical Error #1: Thomas Jefferson Version

I urge you

offer your bodies as a


living sacrifice

Do not conform
transform

renew your mind.

test and approve

God's will



THERE'S A REASON
WHY THE WINDSHIELD
IS LARGER THAN THE
REAR VIEW MIRROR.
WHAT'S IN FRONT
OF YOU IS MORE
IMPORTANT THAN YOUR PAST.

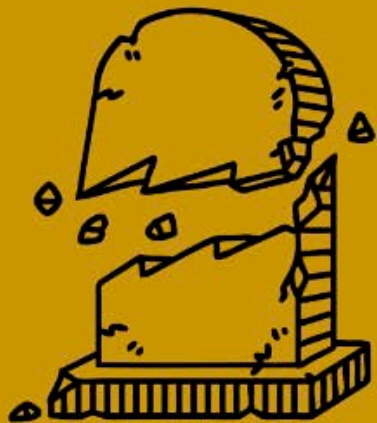
@jeremajohnson1

Romans 12:1-2

Critical Error #2: Missing the therefore

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Romans



CHAPTERS 1-3
SPRING '23



CHAPTERS 4-8
FALL '23



CHAPTERS 9-11
SPRING '24

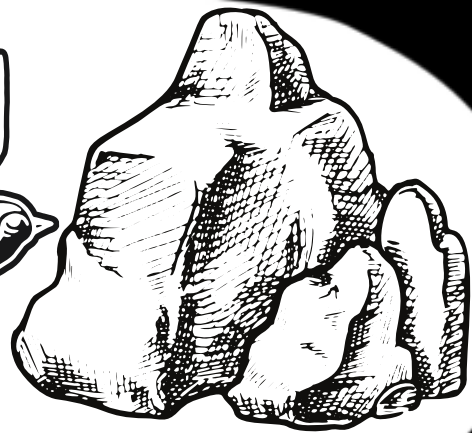


CHAPTERS 12-16
SPRING '24

Romans 12:1-2

Critical Error #2: Missing the therefore

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**OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE CLOSER
THAN THEY APPEAR**

Romans



CHAPTERS 12-16

Romans 12:1-2

1. Know your role

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The offering of the living bodies of believers as sacrifices contrasts with the OT offerings of dead animals. Here the word 'body' represents far more than just our belongings or our money. It means the totality of our life, plans and activities. The offering of ourselves is a spiritual act of worship that we can give to God. Through our bodies we express what we think, what we have and how we live.

David M. Kasali, *Africa Bible Commentary* (Nairobi, Kenya; Grand Rapids, MI: WordAlive Publishers; Zondervan, 2006), 1394.



1 John 2:2

1. Know your role

² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Romans 12:1-2

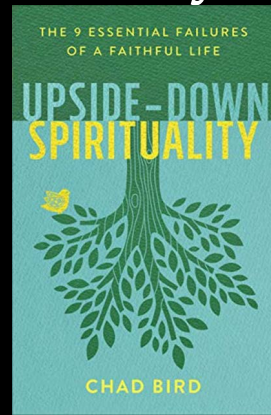
1. Know your role

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“This is critical to understand: our vocations are not how we make a living but how life has made us. Has life made you a son or daughter, mother or father, husband or wife, boss or employee, leader or citizen? Those are your callings, your vocations. And nobody has just one. On the day of my birth, for instance, I was a son, brother, and citizen of the United States. I wasn't even out of diapers and God had already called me into three vocations! Over time, I entered even more callings. I became a husband, father, grandfather, and employee...”

The premodern world had it right: open your eyes and look around to see where you live, who you live with, and what they do... There, written in the lives of those people, are your callings. God has summoned you to care for them. To love them. To sacrifice your time, your sweat, your dollars – all of yourself – to serve them... It's not some deep mystery we have to solve by penciling in the ovals on career aptitude tests, searching our hearts, & attending job fairs. We can't unearth it because it's not buried. It's as plain as the face on our neighbor."

Chad Bird, *Upside-Down Spirituality: The 9 Essential Failures of a Faithful Life*



Romans 12:1-2

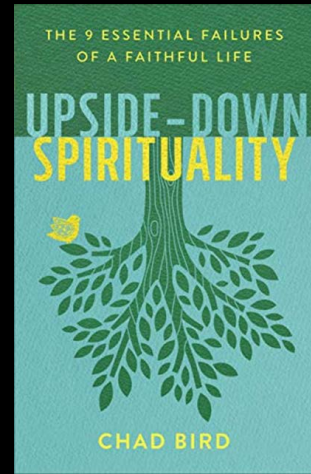
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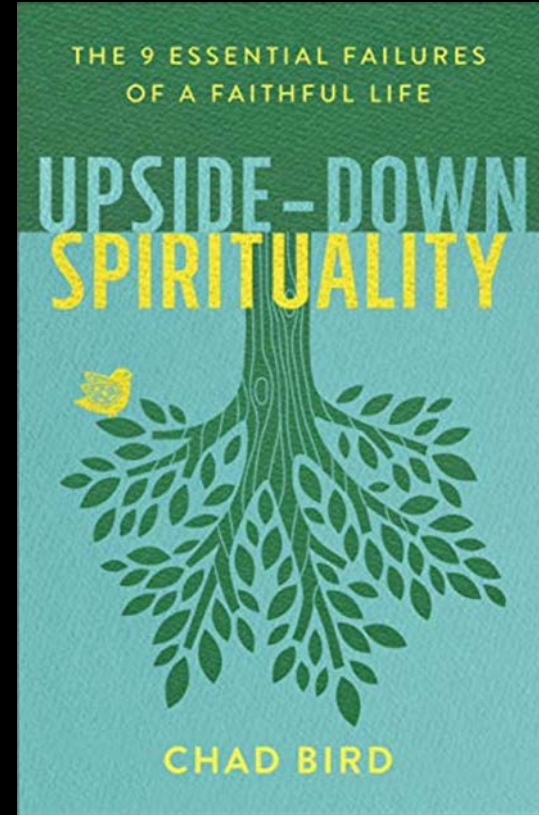


Where are your altars? A bicycle, its training wheels removed, where you run alongside your five-year-old son as he gets his balance. An office where you make calls, answer emails, write software. An attic where you install a new A/C system to keep a family cool. A university classroom where you listen to lectures, take exams, and work toward your degree. A hiking path where you walk and talk with your friend who struggles with depression.

Chad Bird, *Upside-Down Spirituality: The 9 Essential Failures of a Faithful Life*



Wherever Christ is active within you to serve your neighbor, your family, your fellow citizens, your customers, your friends, or complete strangers – there is your altar, the concrete place where the Spirit is at work within you to bear his fruits, to sustain creation, and to fill you as you empty yourself into others.



Chad Bird, *Upside-Down Spirituality: The 9 Essential Failures of a Faithful Life*

Romans 12:1-2

2. Discover God's role

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SURROUND YOURSELF WITH THOSE WHO WILL TAKE YOU TO THE NEXT LEVEL

FEARLESS MOTIVATION | ITUNES, SPOTIFY





surround your|




- surround yourself with good people
- surround yourself with good people quotes
- surround yourself with people smarter than you
- surround yourself with successful people
- surround yourself with positive people
- surround yourself with people who make you happy
- surround yourself with happiness journal

**THE PERSON YOU ARE
AND THE PERSON YOU
WANT TO BE ARE
ONLY SEPARATED BY
DISCIPLINE.**

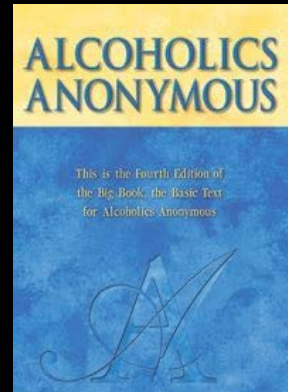


Be the hero you didn't have.

 Just do it



“Most people try to live by self-propulsion... Each person is like an actor who wants to run the whole show; is forever trying to arrange the lights, the ballet, the scenery and the rest of the players in his own way. If his arrangements would only stay put, if only people would do as he wished, the show would be great...What usually happens? The show doesn't come off very well...He decides to exert himself more”

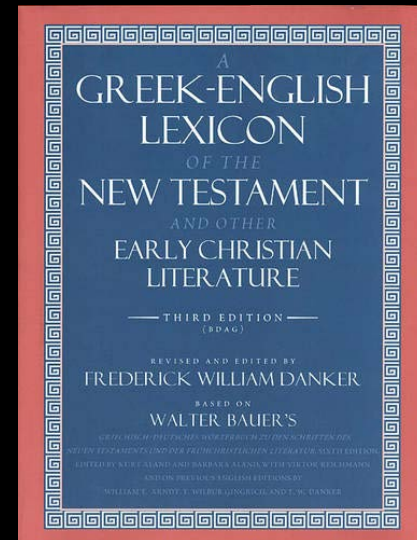


Alcoholics Anonymous: The Story of How Many Thousands of Men and Women Have Recovered from Alcoholism (New York: Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, 2001), 61.

μεταμορφώω (metamorphoó)

Change inwardly in fundamental character or condition, be changed, be transformed...

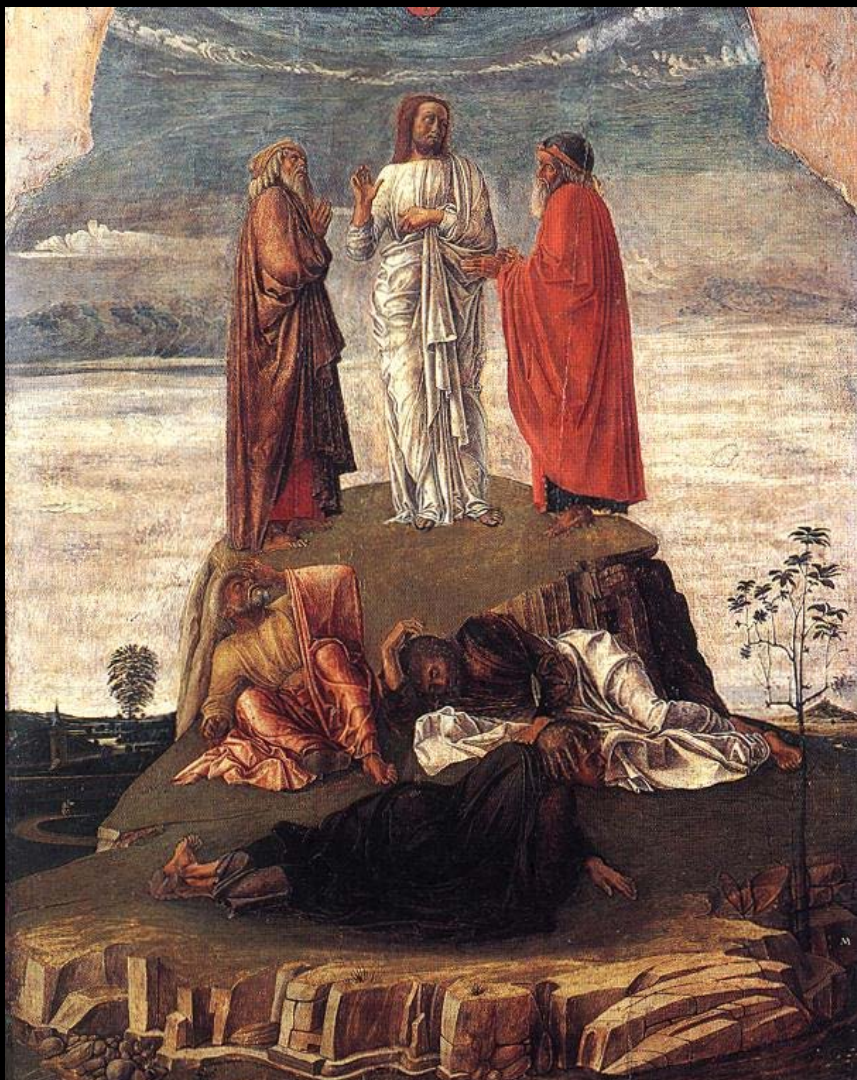
in contrast to the process expressed in [be conformed] ‘model after’ and thus superior to what the world displays.”



Matthew 17:1-8

2. Discover God's role

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. ⁴ Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”



The *Transfiguration*
Giovanni Bellini
c. 1454–1460
tempera-on-panel



'Karma'



'God's Plan'

Matthew 17:1-8

2. Discover God's role

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

2 Corinthians 3:18

2. Discover God's role

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Romans 12:1-2

3. Rehearse & Review

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THE 9 ESSENTIAL FAILURES
OF A FAITHFUL LIFE

UPSIDE-DOWN
SPIRITUALITY



CHAD BIRD



Gospel Application

With God's mercy in view,
what are your altars?

Gospel Application

With God's mercy in view,
what are your altars?

Where is God calling you to *be transformed* by Jesus and his gospel?