

Building Bridges

Rom. 12:1-2

“Crisscrossing the Bridge Within Us”

Rom. 12:1 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.

2 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.

“Mothers – Building Bridges for a Lifetime”

“Building a Bridge When You Are Not Sure Where You Are Going”

Rom. 12:1-2 stands as a beacon on the seashore of life, directing us in a path that will spare us from being shipwrecked in our faith. To ignore its guiding light is to court spiritual destruction.

1 Tim. 1:18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest **war a good warfare;**
19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which **some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:**
20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

To heed its guidance is to inspire us to be strengthened within the inner man. The goal is to fall deeper in love with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph. 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory,

17 **That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith**; that ye, being **rooted and grounded in love**,

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19 And to **know the love of Christ**, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fulness of God**.

Original Word: οἰκτιρμός

Transliteration: oiktirmos

Definition: pity, compassion, favor, grace, mercy.

oiktirmós – properly, compassion (pity), i.e. deep feeling about someone's difficulty or misfortune (*TDNT*, 1:159).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3628.htm>

Heb. 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was **in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, **we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;**

I. THE TOTALITY OF COMMITMENT 12:1

Rom. 12:1 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.

A. The Totality of Dependence – “...by the mercies of God...”

B. The Totality in Desertion – “...that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice...”

Gal. 2:20 **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.

1 Cor. 15:31 “...I die daily.”

C. The Totality of Desire – “...holy, acceptable unto God...”

D. The Totality of Duty – “...your reasonable service.”

Lu. 17:10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, **We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.**

II. THE TERMINATION OF CRISSCROSSING, 12:2

Rom. 12:2 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.

A. The Crisscrossing – “...be not conformed to this world:
but be ye transformed ...”

1. The Conformation – “...be not conformed...”

Original Word: συσχηματίζω

Transliteration: suschématizó

Short Definition: I conform to

sysxēmatízō (from *sýn*, "identified *with*" and *sxēmatizō*, "having *outward* shape") – properly, assuming a similar *outward* form (expression) by following the same *pattern* (model, mold).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/4964.htm>

CHANGE FORCED UPON FROM THE OUTSIDE (molded)

1 Pet. 1:14 As obedient children, **not fashioning yourselves according to** the former lusts in your ignorance:

2. The Change – “...but be ye transformed...”

Original Word: μεταμορφόω

Transliteration: metamorphoó

Short Definition: I change the form, transform, transfigure.

metamorphóō (from *metá*, "change after being with" and *morphóō*, "changing form in keeping with inner reality") – properly, transformed *after being with*; *transfigured*. (*metamorphóō*) is **the root of the English terms "metamorphosis"**

CHANGE FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Mt 17:2 And was **transfigured** before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are **changed** into the same image from glory to glory, **even as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

B. The Catalyst – “...by the renewing of your mind...”

Original Word: ἀνακαίνωσις

Transliteration: anakainósis

Definition: renewing; a renewal or change of heart and life.

Properly, a *new* development; a *renewal*, achieved by God's power.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/342.htm>

A renewal, renovation, complete change for the better renewal or renovation, denoting a continuous process through which man becomes more fully Christ-like, in which process he is a worker together with God.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G342&t=KJV>

Psa. 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to **thy word**.

11 **Thy word** have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Col. 3:14 And above all these things *put on* charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom;** teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

C. The Consequences – “...that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Original Word: δοκιμάζω

Transliteration: dokimazo

Definition: I put to the test, **prove**, examine; I distinguish by testing, approve after testing; I am fit.

Properly, to try (test) to show something is acceptable (real, approved); put to the test to reveal what is good (genuine).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1381.htm>

Rom. 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good** to them that **love God**, to them who are the called **according to his purpose**.

Summary

“Crisscrossing the Bridge Within Us”

- The Totality of Dependence – “...by the mercies of God...”
- The Totality in Desertion – “...that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice...”
- The Totality of Desire – “...holy, acceptable unto God...”
- The Totality of Duty – “...your reasonable service.”
- The Change – “...but be ye transformed...”
- The Catalyst – “...by the renewing of your mind...”
- The Consequences – “...that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Conclusion

Eph. 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be **strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;**

17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, **being rooted and grounded in love,**

18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what *is* the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;

19 And **to know the love of Christ**, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

20 Now **unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,**

21 Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.