

Romans 12:1-2 (אל-הרומים, ΠΡΟΣ ΡΩΜΑΙΟΥΣ)

In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans, he is pleading with members of the body of Christ on the importance of our bodies being the dwelling place of the Ruach HaKodesh (the Holy Spirit). In the Textus Receptus, Paul says "parakalo oun unas" meaning "I exhort you." The NASB translates as "I urge you" saying in *Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (NASB)* Here Paul is admonishing/warning the Romans to realize the importance and motivation behind their obedience to God. According to the text, the "body" is from the Greek word "soma" written as "Somata" meaning our physical bodies are to be presented as living sacrifices. Here the word for "present" is a technical term that has a direct connection to the Korbanot (offerings and sacrifices) offered in the Mishkhan (Tabernacle).

ΠΡΟΣ ΡΩΜΑΙΟΥΣ 12:1-2

παρακαλῶ οὖν ὑμᾶς ἀδελφοὶ διὰ τῶν οἰκτιρμῶν τοῦ θεοῦ **12**
 παραστήσαι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν θυσίαν ζῶσαν ἁγίαν εὐάρεστον τῷ
 θεῷ τὴν λογικὴν λατρείαν ὑμῶν . καὶ μὴ συσχηματίζεσθε τῷ αἰ- **2**
 ῶνι τούτῳ ἀλλὰ μεταμορφοῦσθε τῇ ἀνακαινώσει τοῦ νοῦς ὑμῶν
 εἰς τὸ δοκιμάζειν ὑμᾶς τί τὸ θέλημα τοῦ θεοῦ τὸ ἀγαθὸν καὶ
 εὐάρεστον καὶ τέλειον . λέγω γὰρ διὰ τῆς χάριτος τῆς δοθείσης **3**

The Hebrew translation of the Textus Receptus says "geviyoteychem cekorban chay" meaning "your bodies as a living Korban" the use of the Hebrew word Korban draws the reader to the imagery of slaying the offerings before the Mishkhan in the Torah.

אל-הרומים 12:1-2

ועתה אני מתחנן אלכם אחי ברחמי אלהים להקדיש את יב
 גויותיכם כקרבן חי וקדוש לרצון לאלהים כפי כזאת תשפילו
 לעבד אתו: ואלתהו דומים לבני העולם הזה כי אסתנו **2**
 לבכם להתחדש ונהפכתם לענשים אחרים ועיניכם לאלהים
 לבחן מדהוא רצונו הטוב והנעים והשלם: כי עלפי רוח **3**

The Greek and Hebrew translations provide us with the importance of presenting all of our members and faculties to the Lord in a similar manner as it is written and described according to the Torah in the temple sacrifices. It is interesting that the very next word to the phrase "*present your bodies as a living sacrifice*" in Greek is "agian" and in Hebrew "kadosh" meaning "holy." Here Paul is saying that the offering of our bodies needs to be done in a very special way, it is to be done by sanctifying our bodies as holy before God. I don't know if you had thought about this before, but Paul is speaking about a "forward-backward" relationship in Word of God and

the Lives of every person who believes in Yeshua the Messiah. The Torah pointed forward to the coming of the Messiah Yeshua, and here Paul is writing that the offering of our bodies meaning “the way we live” is to be done in such a way that our lives reflect or point back to the holiness of God and the authority of the Word of God in our lives. The holiness of God needs to be exhibited in our bodies as an offering to the Most High God because of His Son Yeshua (Jesus). In addition to this, notice also that in *Romans 12:1*, Paul says that the offering of our bodies is our “*Spiritual service of worship.*” So, the way we live our lives is our spiritual act of worship before God. *Romans 12:2* goes on to say *12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (NASB)* Here we find the very nature of holiness, to be separated and sanctified. The transforming of our mind is an important part of our being separated from the world; this is the will of God, to live for Him and in Him based upon God’s holy Word. Essentially, by these two verses Paul is telling us that our lives need to affirm God’s Word (the Bible) so that we may prove what the will of God is. The will of God is to live by faith, walk by faith, and believe all 66 books of the bible by faith. The question before us today is “*Am I living for the Lord according to the Scriptures?*”

Hope you have a blessed day in Yeshua the Messiah!

What to pray:

- *Ask the Lord to help you live your life by faith in the way that Paul is writing to the Romans.*
- *Thank the Lord for lifting the burden of sin, revealing His truth, and enabling us in this day and age of unbelief to live for Him.*

Be Blessed in Yeshua, Christ our Messiah!

הלליה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:
 Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,
 “Yeshua” King Messiah forever and ever