



HEBRON

Sunday, January 6, 2019

Dr. Landon Dowden

THEREFORE, BY GOD'S MERCY

Romans 12:1

Passage in a Sentence: Because we have received and are receiving God's mercies, the "therefore" of the gospel should be evident in every believer's life.

- I. In every believer's life, the "therefore" of the Gospel should be evident.
 - a. Because God has given us His mercy
 - i. Why is God's mercy such a big deal?
 1. Our Problem
 - a. Always remember that when God judges sin, there are no exceptions and there will be no excuses. (3:9-20)
 - i. We have no defense. We have nothing to say. We are all accountable to God and we've all turned from Him.
 - ii. And there's nothing we can do to save ourselves.
 2. God's Propitiation
 - a. In light of our guilt, we should always be grateful for the gospel. (3:21-26)
 - b. Though we possess no defense for our sin, God provides deliverance from our sin. (3:21-26)
 3. God's Praise
 - a. The One who saves deserves all the glory (3:27-31)
 - ii. If there were no Gospel Word, there would be no Gospel Community.
 - b. Because God is giving us His mercies



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- II. In every believer's life, there should be a recognition that receipt of God's mercies comes with Kingdom responsibilities.

- III. In every believer's life, the "therefore" of the Gospel should be evident in:
 - a. How we relate to God (Romans 12:1-2)
 - i. The Gospel Community shows that Christ is our treasure by how we use our minds and bodies.
 - ii. The Gospel changes the way the Gospel Community thinks.
 1. By God's mercies, the gospel community does not conform to the world.
 - iii. The Gospel Community is transformed to know and do God's will.
 - b. How we relate to other believers (Romans 12:3-13)
 - iv. The Gospel changes how we think about ourselves. (12:3)
 - v. The Gospel changes how we think about other believers. (12:4-8)
 - vi. As we live the Gospel, Rom. 12:9-13 should be true of us (These are vital signs of the Gospel community):
 - We are the community who loves genuinely (without masks) as we help each other to hate evil and to cling to what is good.
 - We are the community who loves one another with brotherly affection.
 - We are the community who seeks to outdo one another in showing honor.
 - We are the community who is zealous rather than lazy.
 - We are the community who is fervent in the Spirit.
 - We are the community who serves the Lord.
 - We are the community who rejoices in hope.
 - We are the community who is patient in tribulation.
 - We are the community who is constant in prayer.
 - We are the community who contributes to the needs of the saints.
 - We are the community who seeks to show hospitality



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- c. How we relate to the world (Romans 12:14-21)
 - i. The gospel of Christ transforms the way we view and treat the people who harm us most.
 - ii. The gospel demands that we not treat our enemies as they deserve to be treated but rather that we treat them as Christ has treated us.
 - iii. Like Christ, we are to empathize with others.
 - iv. Like Christ, we are to live in harmony with others.
 - v. Like Christ, we are to associate with the lowly.
 - vi. Like Christ, we are to be humble.
 - vii. The Gospel enables us to do what is honorable in the sight of all, never repaying evil with evil.
 - viii. The Gospel enables us to live peaceably with all, so far as it depends on us.
 - ix. The Gospel enables us to give place to God's wrath, never avenging ourselves.
 - x. The Gospel enables us to overcome evil with good, never being overcome by evil.