**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’ Message #74 – ‘Renovation’**

**January 7th, 2018**

**Text: Rom. 12:2**

Keith M. Doyle, Lead Pastor

Winnetka Bible Church

**I. Summary:**

**1. Section #1: The Righteousness God Requires (Chap.1:1-3:20)**

* **Theme: God's Holiness In Condemning Sin**

**2. Section #2: The Righteousness Christ Provides (Chap.3:21-6:23)**

* **Theme: God’s Grace in Justifying Sinners**

**3. Section #3: The Righteousness the Spirit Produces (Chap.7:1-8:39)**

* **Theme: God’s Power in Sanctifying Believers**

**4. Section #4: God’s Righteousness in Salvation (Chap.9-11)**

* **Theme: God’s Plan to Save His People**

**5. Interrogative Question:**

* + **God’s Righteousness in Service (Chap. 12-16)**
  + **Illus. A sinner ‘running’ from sin; Gordon MacDonald’s rocks/complex truths**
  + **Q. *What does it mean to be a ‘living sacrifice’?***
  + **My aim is to show you what Paul says how God’s grace enables us to live un-conformed and transforming lives**

1. **The Reason, *‘…do not be conformed…but be transformed…renewing of mind’* 2**
   1. **What does it mean to *‘not be conformed to the world’*?**
   * **V. 1 The ‘offering’ of the body; now v. 2 The transformation of the mind**
   * ***‘World’* = age, this present ‘evil’ age; c/f Gal.1;4,5**

* **Apply: What Jesus didn’t die for?**
  + **Some think this ‘conformity’ translates to behaviorism**
  + **John Murray on conformity**
  1. **Boiling it down…**
  + ***‘Being conformed’* = Living life without/independent from, God**
  + **Godless thinking…leads to godless living…(contrary to being a ‘Living sacrifice’)**
  1. **Renovation, *‘…be transformed…’***
  + **Present passive imperative (voice, tense and mood) a constant thing…we are to be transformed…What does this look like?**
  + **Apply: A puzzle…Why are so many Christians seemingly unchanged over long periods of time? ‘Comfortable Christianity’; Illus. We don’t really like change…and we do - paradox**
  1. **How? – *‘renewal of your mind…’***
  + **C/f – What Paul said about the unconverted mind in Rom.1:28**
  + **The ‘means’ of this transformation:**

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  1. **How? – *‘renewal of your mind…’***
  + **C/f – What Paul said about the unconverted mind in Rom.1:28**
  + **The ‘means’ of this transformation:** 
    - **Primary source - God’s Word (c/f 2 Cor.3:18, *‘changed’*)**
    - **Secondary sources - teachers, study helps, books, sermons…**
  + **Paul says your mind must be renewed/renovated**

**Apply: If there is no friction/tension you are not living a transformed life…**

**Eg…friction in relationships; hunger for growth?**

1. **The Result, *‘…by testing you may discern what is the will of God…’* 2** 
   1. **Knowing the Will of God Comes through Testing**
   * **Result: *‘So that…by testing…discern’* =**
   * **God will use hard things to work in us and test us – what are some of those ‘hard things’?**

* **Illus. Not getting what you want, relational breakdown, a broken dream**
* **Apply: What bad habit…bad attitude…broken relationship is God’s Spirit ‘poking’ you about?** 
  1. **Applying the Will of God Happens Through Spiritual Discernment**
  + ***Moo – ‘Here the meaning is that the Christian’s mind is so being ‘renewed’ by grace that he now, by a holy instinct, can discern, in conflicting cases, the will of God from the will of self…this is an ongoing process’***
  + **A new control center = surrendering to Jesus as King - *‘Good, acceptable, perfect’* (2) will of God** 
    - **Primary source - God’s Word (c/f 2 Cor.3:18, *‘changed’*)**
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