INTRODUCTION - (Romans 12:1-2) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God. that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world; but, be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

"I beseech you" - beg you; urge; sit up and take notice; a call to action from the hearers.

"Brethren" - Christians; each of you; make it personal and take it to heart...

"By the mercies of God" - the motivation is based on God's great love and grace.

1. "AND DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD"

J.B. Philips, "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold."

"Conform" - to be molded by; fashioned by; copy; adopt another's action or image.

"World" - it's the habits, desires, and value-judgments of man taking you away from God; worldliness; the worldly vices of the worldly people.
(Exodus 23:2) "You shall not follow a crowd to do evil"
(Ephesians 4:17-20 and 1 John 2:16-17)

2. "BUT BE TRANSFORMED"

"Transformed" - changed into another form (from worldliness to godliness); conversion; to "put off" and "put on;" behave differently; metamorphosis. (Colossians 3:8-10 and 1 Peter 1:13-15)

Someone asked, "If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

"3. DESCRIPTIVE BEHAVIOR OF "TRANSFORMED"

"Present your bodies" - our physical bodies are a presentation to God by His direction.

"A living sacrifice" - is in contrast to the slain sacrifices under the O.T.

The presenting of our bodies to God did not end at the baptistery; it's daily cross-bearing.

"Holy" - we are set apart for Divine service, designed by God to be used for God. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17 and 6:19-20)

"Acceptable to God" - live a life that's approved by God (not the world's applause).

"Is your reasonable service" - think about it; God has only asked us to leave those things that would harm us mentally, emotionally, physically, or spiritually.

"by the renewing of your mind" - revival; get rid of your stinking thinking; refresh.

"That you may prove" - put "transformed" living to the test; try it; trust and obey.

"that good and acceptable and perfect will of God"

There is heavenly encouragement to put a "transformed" life into action.