


Rick Warren

“Nothing shapes your life more than the commitments you choose to make.”

Romans

Righteousness and Faith <i>Grace</i> (Faith) <i>Guilt</i> ch.1-8	Righteousness and Israel <i>Faithful</i> (Hope) <i>Faithless</i> ch.9-11	Righteousness and Living (Love) ch.12-16
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What about Israel? What about Ethics? ?



Romans

Righteousness and Faith (Faith) ch.1-8	Righteousness and Israel (Hope) ch.9-11	Righteousness and Living (Love) ch.12-16
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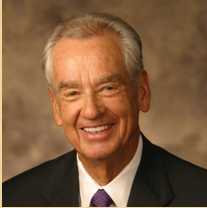
Explanation	Application
Christ FOR us	IN & THROUGH us
Faith	Faithfulness

Romans

Righteousness and Faith (Faith) ch.1-8	Righteousness and Israel (Hope) ch.9-11	Righteousness and Living (Love) ch.12-16
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12:1-2

Commitment
the link between
faith, hope, and love



Zig Ziglar
Motivational Speaker

It was character that got us out of bed, commitment that moved us into action, and discipline that enabled us to follow through.”

Romans

Righteousness and Faith	Righteousness and Israel	Righteousness and Living
(Faith)	(Hope)	(Love)
ch.1-8	ch.9-11	ch.12-16

12:1-2

Commitment

It is not the object but the nature and motivation of commitment that is addressed.

Romans

Righteousness and Faith	Righteousness and Israel	Righteousness and Living
(Faith)	(Hope)	(Love)
ch.1-8	ch.9-11	ch.12-16

Three common mistakes

1. Define Christianity in terms of feelings, actions, & commitment rather than the faith that leads to them.
2. Make faith an expression of commitment and not vice versa.
3. Assume that all Christian commitment is healthy.

Romans 12

“¹ I urge you therefore, 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. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

“¹ I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,”

Healthy commitment is GROUNDED IN GRACE.

- “urge” - Paul ministers graciously. He does not “command” but rather pleads for a free and reasoned response.

Grace is at the core of our message, motivation, and method.

“¹ I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,”

Healthy commitment is GROUNDED IN GRACE.

- “therefore” - “because of” - what follows is based on what is revealed in ch.1-11.

Our commitment is a **response** to what God has done **FOR** us in Christ.

“¹ I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,”

Healthy commitment is GROUNDED IN GRACE.

Unhealthy commitment is based on:

**force, fear, guilt,
duty, tradition,
sentiment.**

“¹ I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,”

**Healthy commitment is
GROUNDED IN GRACE.**

- “brethren” - Paul is speaking to believers who have faith but lack the kind of commitment that will make them salt and light in the world.

**Paul is challenging believers
to follow up on their faith with
commitment.**

“¹ I urge you therefore, 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.”

**Healthy commitment is an act of
SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP.**

- “present”, “bodies”, “sacrifice”, “acceptable”, “worship” - are temple worship words.

**We are the sacrificial offering
that God seeks.**

“¹ I urge you therefore, 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.”

**Healthy commitment is an act of
SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP.**

**Unhealthy commitment is anything
short of our lives like ONLY
our time, treasure, talent, etc.**

“¹ I urge you therefore, 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.”

**Healthy commitment is an act of
SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP.**

Know yourself,
Accept yourself

FORGET yourself,
Give yourself.

“² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,”

This is in contrast to Rom.1

Romans 1:21,25

“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”

“For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator,”

“² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,”

**Healthy commitment reflects
HOLINESS.**

- “be transformed” - comes from the Geek word behind “metamorphosis” - the same animal takes on a radically different form.
- “your mind” - the seat of understanding contrasted with 1:28 “depraved mind.”

**Worldliness is defined by
perspectives and values that
govern decisions and behaviors.**

“2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,”

Healthy commitment reflects HOLINESS.

Unhealthy commitment is an **adapting of the world's values** in order to win respect from the world.

Unhealthy commitment is a withdrawal from the world - the “**holy huddle**” or the “**fortress church**.”

“2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Healthy commitment will show GOD'S WILL

• “prove” - has the idea of “demonstrate” or “show.”

***This is the essence of
knowing the will of God.***

“2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Healthy commitment will show GOD'S WILL

***Unhealthy commitment is
obsessed with details while
missing the big picture.***



Common misunderstandings

False signs of healthy commitment

- vocational ministry
- mission field
- wealth or poverty, celibacy,
- dramatic gifts / experiences
- fanaticism, obsession
- discipline

False signs of unhealthy commitment

- certain personality type
- certain spiritual gifts
- diverse interests
- structure / flexibility

A positive example

Galatians 2:20

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.”

A negative example

1 Corinthians 1:7, 3:3

“you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the relation of our Lord Jesus Christ”

“are you not walking like mere men?.”