“A Living Sacrifice”
Rom. 12:1-2

Introduction:
A. The Christian offers a unique sacrifice.
   1. Unlike the lifeless sacrifices of pagans and Jews.
   2. He offers to God a life of reasonable (spiritual) service.
B. The Christian offers a unique life to God for His use.

Discussion:
I. He Offers A Sacrificial Life. (“A Living Sacrifice”).
   A. Sacrificing should cost us something. (cf. 2 Sam. 24:24).
   B. Sacrificing means forsaking all for Christ. (Lk. 14:33).
      1. Sinful pleasures.
      2. Fleshly ties.
      3. Fleshly advantages. (Phil. 3:3-7).
   C. Sacrificing means being willing to spend and be spent (cf. 2 Cor. 12:15).
II. He Offers A Purified Life. (“Holy, acceptable unto God”).
   A. Made holy by the “mercies of God”.
      2. Mercy through blood of Christ. (ch. 5:6-10).
   B. Kept holy by the “mercies of God.”
      1. Sin not to reign in mortal bodies. (6:12 with context)
      2. Kept holy by walking in light and confessing sin. (1 John 1:7-2:2).
III. He Offers A Transformed Life. (“Not conformed..but transformed”).
   A. The conformed person:
      1. Measures himself by wrong standard. (Cf. 2 Cor. 10:12).
         a. The current moral standards of world.
         b. The current religious standards of world.
         c. The current social standards of world.
         d. The current conventional wisdom of the world.
      2. Reacts to his world - rather than God's will.
         a. Positively — loves to be like others for its sake.
         b. Negatively —loves to be different from others for its sake.
         c. In either case he lets world control his life.
      3. May conform to a different segment of world from another.
         a. One may conform to his age group.
         b. Another may conform to his community.
         c. Another may even conform to the “brotherhood”.
   B. The transformed person conforms to the will of God.
      1. Many activities and customs may be shared by people of world (Cf. 1 Cor. 9).
         a. The conformed person shares because the world does it.
         b. The transformed person shares because the will of God allows it.
         c. The transformed person will be either like or different form another – based on God’s will.
      2. Does not blindly follow thinking, practices or customs of any segment of this world.

Conclusion:
A. Are you ready to present you bodies “a living sacrifice”?