

Introduction:

- The main point of this paragraph is that Christians are to regard themselves in a humble and sober way.
- Understanding that Christians belong to one another in one body in a common and shared grace through faith should help us to provide that sober estimate of ourselves.
- A life that has experienced and is experiencing the transformation of 12:1 & 2 will beautifully aid in the formation of a strongly connected church.

I. Think Soberly

- A. Again, the main point of this paragraph is that Christian are to regard themselves in a humble and wise way.
1. Soberly - with a sound mind, with a disciplined and restrained mind. It is the mind that is a product of renewed mind. It no longer thinks like a worldly person.
"Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us." (Romans 12:3, NLT)
 - a) hyperphronein - Greek, meaning to think arrogantly, more highly, 11:18, 20, 25; 12:16; 14:4 all speak to the topic of pride. Pride leads to confidence in something other than grace.
 - b) phroneo - Greek, meaning to think, mostly in the way a person views something as opposed to the actual thinking process. In this passage Paul is wanting to us to see how we view ourselves.
 - c) sophronein - Greek, meaning to think wisely. In accordance with a "renewed" mind.
- B. Measure according to your faith.
1. Measure is that faith that we as believer all have in common.
 2. It differs based on our study, practice of faith, and relationship with God.
 3. The renewed mind thinks in terms of spiritual worship. And now Paul show us a facet of what that looks like.

II. One Of Many Parts - 4-5

- A. Paul uses the human body in these two verses to illustrate the members of the body of Christ.
1. Vs 4, many parts of the human body and different functions.
 2. vs.5, so it is with the body of Christ, the church. We are many but we are one.
 3. Stress is upon the oneness of the body.
 4. vs. 6 It is God who has given us the differing gifts.
 - a) Each person has different charismata
 - b) But all gifts come from grace.

c) Grace is active by faith!

III. Be Who You Are

- A. You have a measure of faith.
- B. You have gift
- C. Use your gift diligently to strengthen the body's unity and help it to prosper/flourish.

Conclusion:

- "We are, then, to view vv. 9-21 as a further elaboration of that "good" which the person who is being transformed by the renewing of the mind approves of (v. 2)" Moo, D. J. (1996). [The Epistle to the Romans](#) (p. 774). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.