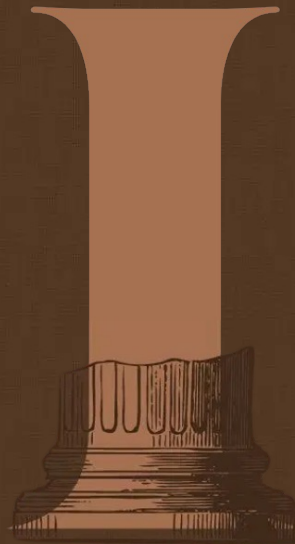


ROMANS TWELVE

XI



VERSE 1-2 | Page 1616



THE PROBLEM

WE FAIL TO SEE REALITY
AS IT TRULY IS



THE CONSEQUENCE OF A FALSE REALITY



When we do not see reality clearly, we will not respond to God rightly.

Paul's Call in Romans 12 is not simply a moral command; it's a theological conclusion.

He's calling us to reject the false reality we've been formed by, exchanging the lies for a life oriented around what is actually true.



BIG IDEA

EMBRACING THE GOSPEL
RENEWS OUR MINDS TO
SEE REALITY AS IT TRULY
IS—LEADING US TO THE
ONLY RATIONAL RESPONSE:
OFFERING OUR WHOLE
SELVES TO GOD



POINT 1


EMBRACING THE GOSPEL,
IN ITS FULLNESS, IS THE
FOUNDATION FOR
WORSHIP AND A RENEWED
MIND



OIKTIRMŌN: THE COMPASSIONS OF GOD

Translated mercy in NIV | Literally
compassions

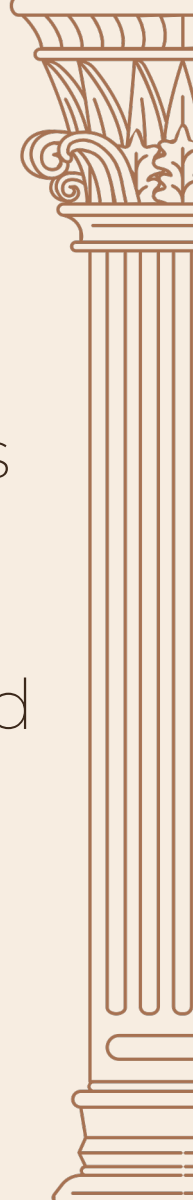
Not just legal forgiveness—full sweep of what
god has done (just described in chapters 1–11):

- He created you intentionally
 - He has sustained you every day
 - He has made a world of staggering beauty
for you to live in
 - He waited patiently for you—and paid for
your debts at tremendous cost to Himself
- 



ROMANS 12:1–2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, **in view of God's mercy**, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.





APPLICATION: READ THIS BOOK



Read this book to do battle against false realities.
The mercy of God, when understood, produces
affection

Read this book and expect to find a description of
what reality really is

Let it correct what suffering, abundance,
abandonment, or belittling taught you

Let it tell you the truth about who God is and who
you are before Him.



POINT 2

THE HOLY AND
PLEASING RESPONSE TO
THE GOSPEL IS TO
PRESENT OURSELVES AS
LIVING SACRIFICES



A “LIVING” SACRIFICE?

What would happen if a sacrifice was put living on the altar?

It would crawl away, just like we so often do.

But, a living sacrifice is so much greater than one that perishes, giving glory to God WILLINGLY forevermore.



POINT 3

TO LIVE AS A SACRIFICE
IS THE RATIONAL ACT OF
WORSHIP THAT ALIGNS
US WITH CREATION'S
DESIGN—AND OUR OWN



LATREIA: RELIGIOUS SERVICE



Translated worship in NIV

Connotes a religious service, like the work of a priest in the temple.

- Notice the continuing priest imagery.
- Your work as a priest is to live as a sacrifice. Your body is the offering you bring.

ROMANS 12:1–2

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LOGIKEN: RATIONALE



Translated true and proper in NIV – Literally from “word” (logos)

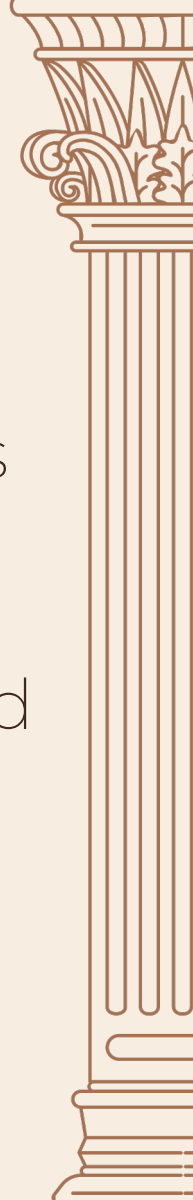
Heavily laden word in Greek society

- To the stoics the logos was the divine rationality behind all creation
- To the Jews it was a referent to the powerful word of God
- To be in line with logos was to be in line with the rationality of creation itself.



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THE VERDICT (ROM. 1-3)

The lie: you are mostly good and don't really need to change.

We have exchanged God's glory for idols of our own choosing

"None is righteous, no, not one"—the verdict is unanimous

Accepting the verdict is what opens the door to repentance and forgiveness in Christ

Knowing how lost you were is what makes sacrifice possible—pride undone, clinging ended

THE TURN (ROM 4-5)

The lie: your standing with God rises and falls on your performance.

Abraham was credited righteous before the law even existed—by faith alone

"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"—not after we cleaned up

Your status as God's child is a gift already given, not a goal you are pursuing

Serving from gratitude rather than obligation changes everything—no more keeping score

THE FIGHT (ROM 6-7)

The lie: since you are forgiven, it doesn't much matter how you live.

Grace is not permission to stay the same—it is power to become new (Rom. 6)

The old self enslaved to sin has been crucified; you are no longer its slave

The agonizing pull of sin (Rom. 7) is evidence of new life, not hypocrisy

A living sacrifice is not one grand gesture—it is a thousand daily decisions to put sin to death



PROMISE (ROM 8)



The lie: suffering and death have the final word.

God doesn't owe anyone life—and yet He offers eternal life to all who believe

Suffering now is not the final word; resurrection is promised

"Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"

You can walk into pain with open arms when you know nothing you lose here is the final accounting



THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD (ROM. 9-11)



The lie: when things fall apart at scale, God has lost the plot.

Has God's word failed? Paul's answer: by no means
Even Israel's unbelief became the means by which
the gospel reached the nations

"God has bound everyone over to disobedience so
that He may have mercy on them all"

The God who has never lost control of history can be
trusted with your one small life



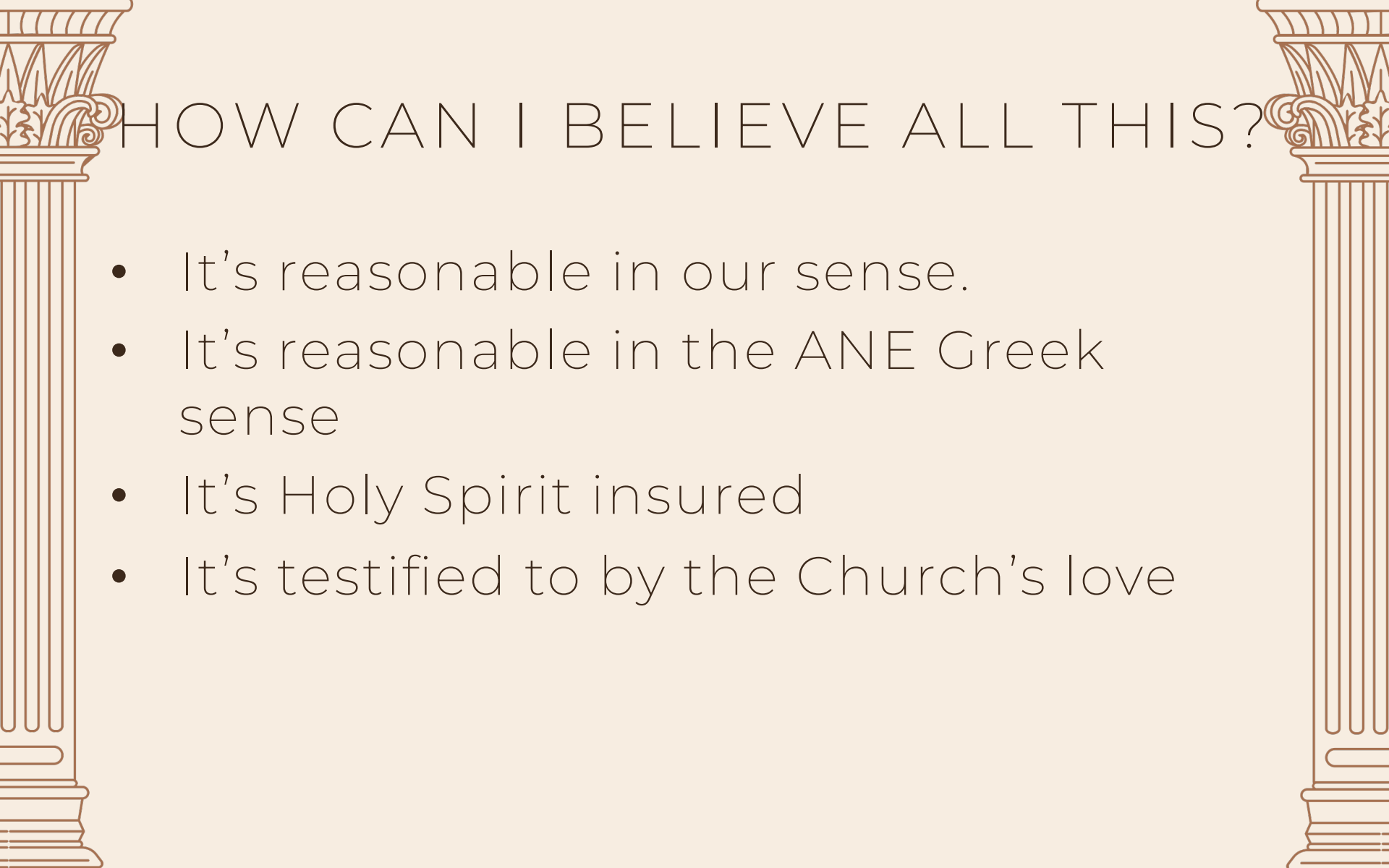
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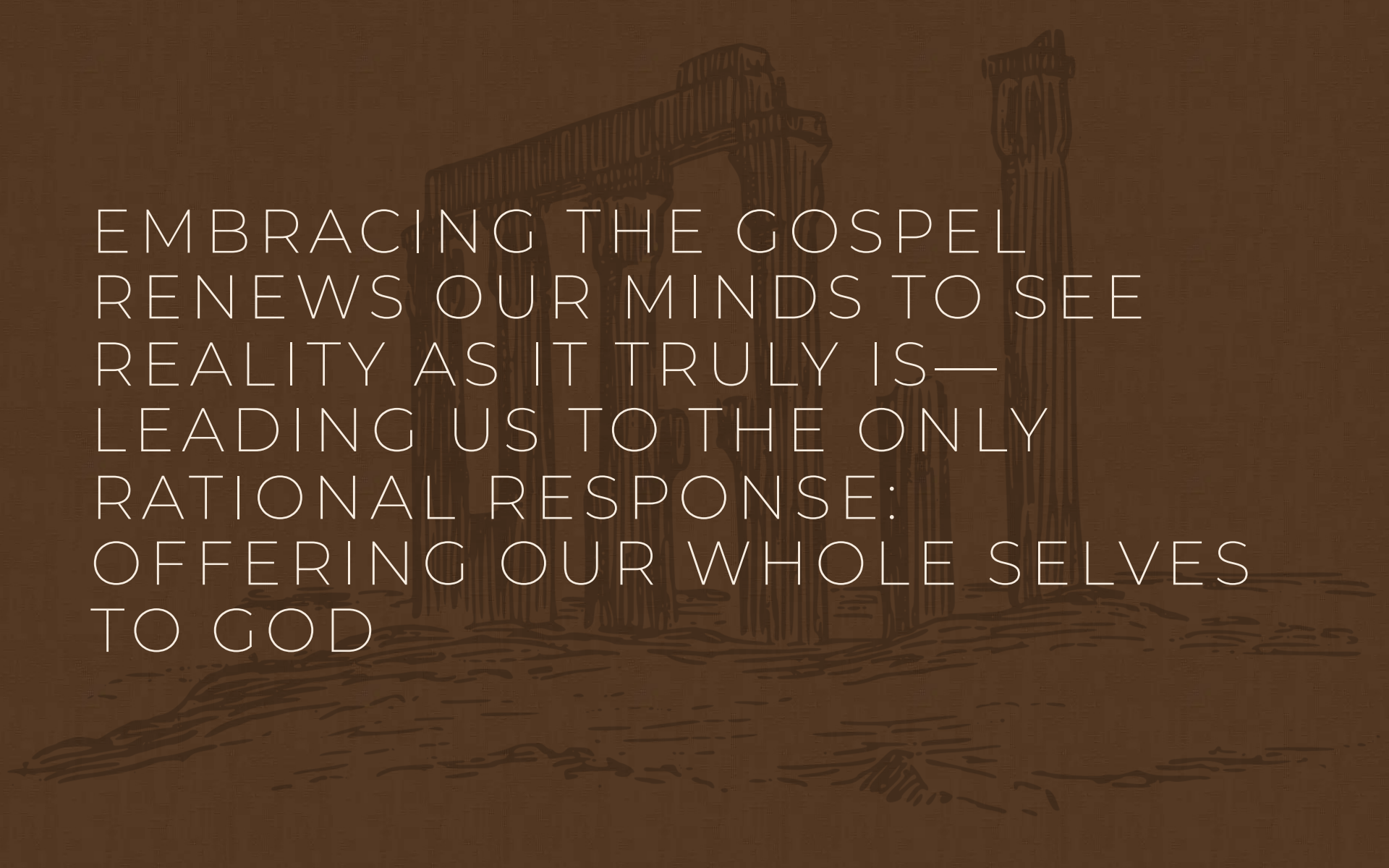
POINT 4

EMBRACING LIVING AS A
SACRIFICE DEMANDS
AND PRODUCES
TRANSFORMATION



HOW CAN I BELIEVE ALL THIS?

- It's reasonable in our sense.
- It's reasonable in the ANE Greek sense
- It's Holy Spirit insured
- It's testified to by the Church's love



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ROMANS TWELVE



LIVING SACRIFICE