

**Associating With the  
Humiliated: Paul's Hermeneutic  
of Transformation in Romans  
12:1-16**

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PDF and PPT Available  
<http://agapecoc.com/sbl2017>



# Context of the Congregation(s)

- Economic Diversity = Peter Lampe
- Written from Corinth? (Acts 20:1-4)
- Names in Romans 16
  - Those Paul knew personally (Acts 15 document)
  - Acts 2 Jewish Christians?
  - Gentiles = Converts? Wealthy?
- Tension
  - Honestoors and Humiliors = 1 Cor, Phil
  - Pauline vs Pentecost or later
  - Unity = common theme of all letters (written Acts 20:1-4)

# Paraenesis

- ▶ Παρακαλει ουν
- ▶ Mercy = Romans 9:32-35; 11:33; 12:1
- ▶ Transformation vs Conformation
- ▶ Transformative Movement
  - ▶ Mind
  - ▶ Ministry
  - ▶ Mutuality

# Mental Movement

- Υοπερφρονειν (v3)
- Φρονειν (v3)
- Φρονεν (v4)
- Σωφρονειν (v4)
- Αλληλους φρονουντες (v16)
- Μη τα υψηλα φρουντες (v16)
- Μη γινεσθε φροنيμοι (v16)
- Αλλα τοις ταπεινοις συναπαγομενοι

# Summary of Textual Issues

- Paul wants the church to mentally move to compassion for the oppressed (12:1-3,16)
- This is done by using their gifts for social justice (12:4-16)
- This will cause them to associate with the oppressed (12:16)
- They will understand forgiveness rather than vengeance (12:17-21)

# Problem for Preaching

- Millenials leaving congregations...
- Decline in attendance, worship, ministry
- Social Justice in our own communities
- Pastor/Preacher
  - *Sermon still important*
  - *Every week is no longer regular...*
  - *Lack of diversity*
  - *Busy schedules...*

A landscape photograph capturing a serene scene at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a gradient of soft pinks, purples, and oranges. In the foreground, a large, dark tree trunk and its branches frame the left side of the image. The middle ground features a grassy field with several trees, some of which are reflected in a calm body of water in the foreground. The background shows rolling hills or mountains under the twilight sky. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

# Our Context

# ENGAGING THE MIND

- Began with College Students
- Planting a church focused on social justice
- Moving a congregation, interns, seminary students
- Moving in the community
- Writing and Trainings



# Ministry

- Focus on justice/mercy ministries
- Partnerships with community agencies
- Leadership within agencies
- Agencies and teams an extension of our outreach/ministry

# Mutuality

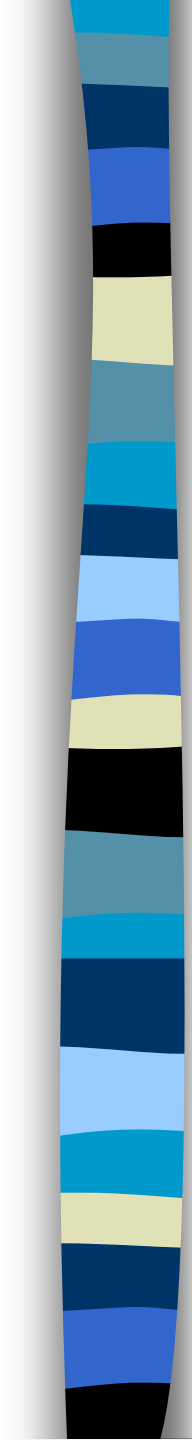
- Safe and Sacred Spaces
- Sunday gatherings and involvement
- Groups/gatherings open
- Members caring for others
- Celebrations of motion and safe community
- Responses

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Association

Mutuality

Community



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