

## Romans 12 – Summary Thoughts

### Table – Romans 12:1-21

- 1 *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*
- 2 *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*
- 3 *For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*
- 4 *For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:*
- 5 *So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.*
- 6 *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;*
- 7 *Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;*
- 8 *Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.*
- 9 *Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.*
- 10 *Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;*
- 11 *Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;*
- 12 *Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;*
- 13 *Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.*
- 14 *Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.*
- 15 *Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.*
- 16 *Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.*
- 17 *Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.*
- 18 *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*
- 19 *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*
- 20 *Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.*
- 21 *Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*

## Notes on Table – Romans 12:1-21

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Romans* pp 462-507 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1503-1504 for detailed comment.

1. Romans 12:1. Paul is here beseeching i.e. pleading with his readers in the light of God's mercy to both Jew and Gentile in sum according to Romans 11:30-31 ***"For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy"*** to as Peter states ***"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation"*** 1 Peter 1:15.

That stance is ***"reasonable service"*** ***"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him"*** 2 Corinthians 5:21.

The individual believer's body therefore is intended as ***"a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God"*** as Paul exhorts Timothy both to purge *and* to flee concerning un-holiness.

***"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart"*** 2 Timothy 2:21-22.

For today's believer ***"righteousness"*** is the indwelling Lord Jesus Christ, 1 Corinthians 1:30, 2 Corinthians 13:5, ***"faith, charity, peace"*** are among ***"the fruit of the Spirit"*** Galatians 5:22 from ***"a pure heart"*** of ***"they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience"*** Luke 8:15.

2. Romans 12:2. The devil seeks global conformity to his NWO whereby ***"...all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"*** Revelation 13:3-4 by means of weakening the nations by breaking down ***"...the bounds of their habitation"*** Acts 17:26 that God set ***"That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him..."*** Acts 17:26-27. One satanic strategy for absorption into his NWO under the antichrist is mass migration ***"...even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro..."*** Daniel 12:4 ***"..for I am prudent: and I have removed the bounds of the people, and have robbed their treasures, and I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man..."*** Isaiah 10:13 but God puts the devil down instead, as Isaiah states. ***"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!"*** Isaiah 14:12.

The Lord Jesus Christ therefore restores national boundaries at the Second Advent.

***"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats"*** Matthew 25:31-32.

The Lord Jesus Christ did not conform to this world as He made clear to His own earthly family and neither is today's believer so to do as the Lord testified to His followers.

***"The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil"*** John 7:7.

***"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you"*** John 15:19.

The transformation by the renewing of the mind is made possible for today's believer because "we have the mind of Christ" 1 Corinthians 2:16. Paul therefore exhorts for the renewing of the mind by means of "the new man" "in Christ...a new creature" 2 Corinthians 5:17 that should be characterised for example by shedding "...all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" 1 John 2:16 and by consistent truth-speaking "...for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Paul therefore exhorts "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another" Ephesians 4:22-25.

3. Romans 12:3. Paul is here urging for today's believer a right evaluation of God's sufficiency for doing God's will God's way "not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh" Colossians 2:23 according to Romans 12:1-2 and the realistic exercise of "the measure of faith" which is "the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory" James 2:1 as Paul expresses elsewhere.

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" 2 Corinthians 9:8.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" Galatians 2:20.

4. Romans 12:4-6. Romans 12:4-5 introduce the *application* of fulfilling the Lord's will, Romans 12:1, 2, according to the bestowal of God's sufficiency *in the form of gifts for service* and the exercise "as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith...Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us" Romans 12:3, 6 "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ" Ephesians 4:12 "...that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light" 1 Peter 2:9.

5. Romans 12:6-8. Paul here sets out the manner in which the gifts for service "gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us" Romans 12:6 are to be exercised:

- 5.1. "prophecy...according to the proportion of faith" Romans 12:6 in that "...faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" Hebrews 11:1 with the prophet like "Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet" Hebrews 11:7 "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" 2 Corinthians 5:7.

Prophecy of course "...now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God..." Romans 16:26 insofar as "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets" Amos 3:7 including for example the permanence of *the nation* of Israel, Jeremiah 31:35-37, 33:19-21, 25-26:

"Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD."

"And the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah, saying, Thus saith the LORD; If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, and that there should not be day and night in their season; Then may also my covenant be broken with David"

my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.”

“Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant be not with day and night, and if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, so that I will not take any of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them.”

In addition “prophecy...according to the proportion of faith” Romans 12:6 has application to non-King James pulpits becoming King James pulpits. Pulpits are often raised on daises and are therefore “high places” in a church building, “...thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places” Deuteronomy 33:29.

- 5.2. Ministry as in “ministering to the saints...by the will of God” 2 Corinthians 8:4-5, teaching, exhorting Romans 12:7, 8 are all *wait-on* ministries according to need that *God* not man specifies “by the will of God” 2 Corinthians 8:5 as Paul states “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus” Philippians 4:19.
- 5.3. Giving “with simplicity” Romans 12:8 is as it was for “the churches of Macedonia” 2 Corinthians 8:1 who simply specified the intended recipients of their giving and trusted in the will of the Giver that He revealed to them in that they “first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God” 2 Corinthians 8:5.
- 5.4. Diligent rule Romans 12:8 is as Peter exhorts “Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock” 1 Peter 5:2-3.
- 5.5. Showing mercy “with cheerfulness” Romans 12:8 is meant to be infectious so that those ministered to may be cheered and their spirits uplifted because “A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken” Proverbs 15:13. See attached study [Mother](#).
6. Romans 12:9-21. Paul focuses on holy living as Peter states “Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” 1 Peter 1:16 that would apply both with respect to conduct as “a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service” Romans 12:1 and to the exercise of gifts in “ministering to the saints...by the will of God” 2 Corinthians 8:4-5.
  - 6.1. Romans 12:9-10. The overarching attitude here with respect to “love...without dissimulation,” abhorrence of evil, Romans 12:9 and “brotherly love; in honour preferring one another” Romans 12:10 is as Paul states in Romans 12:17 “Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men” and 2 Corinthians 8:21 “Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.” It is in sum as he exhorts the Philippians. “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” Philippians 2:3-4.
  - 6.2. Romans 12:11. The sense in principle of “Not slothful in business” is as King Solomon explains with respect to a right result i.e. invest wisely and labour steadfastly in order to accumulate. “Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds...The lambs are for thy clothing, and the goats are the price of the field. And thou shalt have goats’ milk enough for thy food, for the food of thy household, and for the maintenance for thy maidens” Proverbs 27:23, 26-27.

Paul typifies “for an ensample” Philippians 3:17 the remainder of Romans 12:11 with respect to steadfastness in fervently serving the Lord, though at times it reduced him to tears and was in the teeth of determined opposition.

**“...Ye know, from the first day that I came into Asia, after what manner I have been with you at all seasons, Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ”** Acts 20:19-21

- 6.3. **Romans 12:12.** Paul is here exhorting all that is relevant for today’s believer what he urges as a prayer in Romans 15:13 **“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost,”** an encouragement to the Philippians **“...in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God”** Philippians 1:28 and a further exhortation to the Thessalonians **“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you”** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 **“continuing instant in prayer”** of course praying as Nehemiah did in pressing circumstances. **“Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven”** Nehemiah 2:4.
- 6.4. **Romans 12:13.** For **“Distributing to the necessity of saints”** see remarks under points 5.2. 5.3 with respect to Philippians 4:19, 2 Corinthians 8:5 and note that Paul exhorts *that which he himself is prepared to do* **“for an ensample”** Philippians 3:17, see remarks under point 6.2 and Acts 20:19-21. **“Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul”** Acts 11:29-30.
- Concerning hospitality, Paul is firm in principle that churches should extend this ministry to the Lord’s itinerant servants. **“If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?”** 1 Corinthians 9:11.
- 6.5. **Romans 12:14.** Obedience to Romans 12:14 requires the strength of the Lord Jesus Christ Who said **“But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you”** Matthew 5:44. Paramedics assaulted by drunks are a challenging role model. See attached letter on that issue to local MP. The letter did receive a prompt and encouraging reply.
- 6.6. **Romans 12:15.** In the modern sense, this is the ultimate application of the modern expression ‘I will be there for you’ or as the Lord Jesus Christ said **“...lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”** Matthew 28:20.
- 6.7. **Romans 12:16.** See point 6.1 and Romans 12:9-10 and note that Paul applies Romans 12:16 with respect to bringing others either to know the Lord Jesus Christ or to know Him better. **“For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more...To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some”** 1 Corinthians 9:19, 22.
- 6.8. **Romans 12:17.** See points 6.1, 6.5 and Romans 12:9-10, 14 and note how Paul applies that exhortation as an ensample to today’s believer. **“And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men”** Acts 24:16.

- 6.9. Romans 12:18-19. Paul in Romans 12:18 exhorts the Romans as he does the Thessalonians “...that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing” 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 e.g. not to take advantage of others especially with respect to their possessions as “the son of Ephraim” did incurring retaliation 1 Chronicles 7:20-23. Paul cites from Deuteronomy 32:35 “To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time; for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste” in Romans 12:19, which can form the basis for an imprecatory prayer for God to deal with an individual or situation to which Paul himself resorts concerning one of “the enemies of the cross of Christ” Philippians 3:18 in 2 Timothy 4:13-15 “Alexander the coppermith did me much evil: the Lord reward him according to his works: Of whom be thou ware also; for he hath greatly withstood our words.”

For a contemporary application see again point 5.1 and the application of Romans 12:6 to non-King James pulpits becoming King James pulpits, pulpits typically raised on daises and therefore “high places” in a church building, “...thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places” Deuteronomy 33:29.

- 6.10. Romans 12:20-21. Romans 12:20 is a citation of Proverbs 25:21-22 “If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink: For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee.”

It could be said especially with respect to the sense of Romans 12:18-19 that it is today’s believer’s part to show magnanimity e.g. inviting Professor Dawkins to read a portion of King James scripture [www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJtCqjUUHG0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJtCqjUUHG0) and God’s part to show vengeance by means of “the greater damnation” Matthew 23:14 in “the lowest hell” Deuteronomy 33:22, Psalm 86:13 where that magnanimity is spurned because “...the heart of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart while they live, and after that they go to the dead” Ecclesiastes 9:3.

That is why as an over-arching application from this study that this writer keeps Professor Dawkins in prayer, the answer to which would be an example of overcoming evil with good and a great reward from the Lord, Who says to Professor Dawkins and all of his persuasion “For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye” Ezekiel 18:32.

The prayer is according to the principle of 2 Timothy 2:25-26 that “...God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.”

## Mother

### *Mercy Manifest*

Romans 12:8 exhorts for **“he that sheweth mercy”** to do so **“with cheerfulness.”** Mary Ann Bickerdyke 1817-1901 from Galesburg Illinois showed mercy manifold **“with cheerfulness”** as a nurse and hospital administrator for the Union Army during the American Civil War. See [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary\\_Ann\\_Bickerdyke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Ann_Bickerdyke) and her biography *Cyclone in Calico* by Nina Brown Baker [archive.org/stream/cycloneincalico001060mbp/cycloneincalico001060mbp\\_djvu.txt](http://archive.org/stream/cycloneincalico001060mbp/cycloneincalico001060mbp_djvu.txt). The title comes from an irate doctor who complained to his commandant about Mrs Bickerdyke’s visit to his hospital, pp 54-55. Alluding to Mrs Bickerdyke’s garb *he shouted to the astonished commandant that a “cyclone in calico” had invaded his hospital and turned it upside down.* Mrs Bickerdyke spoke with the commandant soon afterwards and thereby made herself indispensable to the army for the duration of the war. *The interview that followed is not recorded, but in after years Mrs. Bickerdyke said simply, “I talked sense to him.”* The irate doctor gave no more trouble.



Mary Ann Bickerdyke in 1898

It had all started when Mrs Bickerdyke’s pastor asked her in the summer of 1861 to care for sick soldiers in camp at Cairo, Illinois. The camp was overcrowded and unsanitary. Many men were ill and some had died. Mrs Bickerdyke visited the tented hospitals there, all of which were filthy. She arranged for the sick men to have hot baths, better food, cleaned-up quarters and clean bedding. When she summoned the men to their hot baths and chicken dinners, it was **“with cheerfulness,”** p 42.

*...beckoning the doctor [in charge] and two or three volunteers to accompany her, she marched upon the first tent. She waited a minute, while the dull eyes of the sick men turned toward her. Then, unexpectedly, she laughed.*

*“If your mas could see you now! I bet they ain’t one of you had a bath since you left home. Well, we’re going to clean things up around here, boys. We’re going to clean you up, too. Now how many of you can walk if you try real hard? I got men here to carry you if you can’t. But how many can get up for a hot bath and a clean bed and a real home supper? This ain’t the sergeant getting you up for drill, remember. Come on, now. Who can walk for fried chicken?”*

*A surprisingly large number of them could, and did. Those too weak to totter out on their own feet were carried, and set down near the hogsheads-turned-bathtubs...*

Mrs Bickerdyke knew Proverbs 17:22 **“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones”** and in mercy how to mend broken spirits along with languishing bodies. The soldiers to whom Mrs Bickerdyke ministered responded with uplifted spirits and great affection, p 52. *They called her Mother...Before the summer passed Mrs. Bickerdyke was Mother to every enlisted man in camp, sick or well.* The name stuck and would be used not only by enlisted men.

### *Mercy as Compassion*

Showing mercy **“with cheerfulness”** Romans 12:8 as Mother Bickerdyke did is meant to cheer those ministered to and lift their spirits because **“A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken”** Proverbs 15:13. Luke shows that mercy in Romans 12:8 is therefore compassion manifest as practical care. **“But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him...Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise”** Luke 10:33-34, 36-37. That was Mother Bickerdyke’s calling and strength.

### ***“Nobody alive left out there”***

Mrs Bickerdyke accompanied the Union Army during its advance into Tennessee where she cared for the many wounded from the days-long battle for Rebel-held Fort Donelson in February 1862. She helped scour the battlefield to bring in every possible survivor. On one occasion in spite of her exhaustion, Mrs Bickerdyke continued her search after dark, with an unexpected result, pp 84-85.

*In his tent on the field, a Union officer was sleepless...Colonel John A. Logan...tossed on his cot and cursed his wound...it stung and ached...He got up for a drink of water, and looked out to see how the weather was. The weather was cold, but the sky had cleared, with a waning moon dimly lighting the darkness. While he looked, it seemed to Colonel Logan that he saw another light, close to the ground, and moving a little. It strengthened as his eyes accustomed themselves to the night, and flitted to another spot.*

*The colonel shuddered. Some ghoul, robbing the dead? What else could it be?...Colonel Logan roused his sleeping orderly. “Find that man and bring him to me!” he roared.*

*The orderly went, and for a long time he did not come back. When he did, he had Mother Bickerdyke with him.*

*“I was glad to have your boy’s help,” she said cheerfully. “...I had to satisfy myself. They ain’t nobody alive left out there. Now I know that, I can sleep. You ought to be asleep yourself, son.” She peered at him, holding her lantern high. “Wounded, ain’t you? That’s a mighty messy-looking bandage you got there. Let me fix it” whereupon she did.*

Like Mrs Bickerdyke scouring the wilderness in the dark with a lantern for the sake of the dead, today’s believer ***“sheweth mercy”*** Romans 12:8 in scouring ***“the darkness of this world”*** Ephesians 6:12 ***“with the light of the glorious gospel of Christ”*** 2 Corinthians 4:4 for the sake of the dead as Paul reminds the Ephesians. ***“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins...But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)”*** Ephesians 2:1, 4-5.

### ***“Stretched seventy-five miles”***

Mrs Bickerdyke’s hospital work was demanding in the extreme for both herself and the volunteers who worked with her, p 86. *For the first ten days after the Donelson battle, she never slept in a bed or took off her clothes. “I felt,” she said afterward, “like my nerves was stretched seventy-five miles.” They were steel nerves, and equal to the tension.* As Paul states, with the same application to today’s believer ***“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work”*** 2 Corinthians 9:8.

### ***“The one person...who outranks me”***

By 1864 General William T. Sherman [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Tecumseh\\_Sherman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Tecumseh_Sherman) had assumed command of the Union Army in the Western Theatre of the war where Mrs Bickerdyke ministered. He too saw her as indispensable but Mrs Bickerdyke’s forthright manner still rankled with some senior officers and those close to them, pp 159-160. One day, a colonel came to Sherman with a complaint *that his wife had been grossly insulted by a nasty old woman.*

*“I didn’t know we had any nasty old women in our army,” General Sherman remarked. “Who might she be, now?”*

*“I believe she calls herself Bickerdyke, sir.”*

*“Mother Bickerdyke?” The general laughed. “Oh, well, this is too bad. You’ve picked on the one person around here who outranks me. If you want to lodge a complaint against her, you’ll have to take it to President Lincoln.”*

In conclusion therefore, today’s believer should understand and trust in Proverbs 22:29 ***“Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.”***

## Letter to Local MP on Assaults on Emergency Service Workers and A & E Staff by Patients

Dear Mr Blenkinsop

You will be aware of the appalling situation concerning assaults on Emergency Service Workers and A & E Staff by patients.

See:

**Two in five paramedics say they've been assaulted while on duty in the North East**

[www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2015-08-19/two-in-five-paramedics-say-theyve-been-assaulted-while-on-duty-in-the-north-east/](http://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees/2015-08-19/two-in-five-paramedics-say-theyve-been-assaulted-while-on-duty-in-the-north-east/)

**North East paramedics assaulted by drunk patients as figures highlight shocking scale of abuse**

[www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/health/north-east-paramedics-assaulted-drunk-9878066](http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/health/north-east-paramedics-assaulted-drunk-9878066)

The situation is set to get much worse thanks to the Government's totally irresponsible attitude to the so-called current refugee crisis.

**...Whistleblower doctor explains HORRIFIC reality dealing with Muslim invaders in Germany**

[therightscoop.com/must-watch-whistleblower-doctor-explains-horrific-reality-dealing-with-muslim-invaders-in-germany/#ixzz3p1fvNvKI](http://therightscoop.com/must-watch-whistleblower-doctor-explains-horrific-reality-dealing-with-muslim-invaders-in-germany/#ixzz3p1fvNvKI)

No doubt like yourself, I deplore the Government's apparent callous attitude that it would prefer to see medical staff beaten up than to resource adequate protection for them.

I trust that you can make the contents of this communication known to the House at the appropriate time and insist that the necessary action to be taken as a matter of urgency.

Every ambulance and A & E ward should have a Corporal Taffy Brace RAMC on shift. See below.

Yours sincerely

Alan O'Reilly



*“Morphine is only for the ones who are really hurt”* – Corporal Taffy Brace, *A Bridge Too Far*  
[www.strijdbewijs.nl/market-garden/22september.htm](http://www.strijdbewijs.nl/market-garden/22september.htm)

Copy of Mr Blenkinsop's reply

**TOM BLENKINSOP MP**HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Alan O'Reilly



Our Ref: CLR/O'RE01001/01151097

13 November 2015

Dear Mr O'Reilly,

Thank you for your letter about issues of violence perpetrated on NHS staff in locations like hospitals, A & E Centre and some GP surgeries.

It is something we all deplore, and I stand with NHS Managers and the Trade Unions, staff association and professional bodies who say we should have no compromise with such behaviour.

There are issues around whether we should be looking to more specialist units when dealing with patients who have alcohol or drug dependency issues, and these units should have staffing on hand to see that these issues do not occur. If such an approach is taken, these would mean that there is no need for intervention by people such as the armed forces, who have enough on their plates already.

We should also remember that a lot of such issues are racially motivated and much of the abuse is directed at those overseas workers who are working to try and care for us all and the community. I am sure you also share my view that such behaviour is unwarranted.

With all best wishes.

Yours sincerely

**Tom Blenkinsop MP**

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