

Transformational Power and Process of His Resurrection!

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday Apr 12th

Phil. 3:10 *"That I may know him, the power of his resurrection, the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death"*

Eccl. 3:1 *"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven."* To understand God's purposes, we must go through a transformational process. (Ro. 12:1,2; Rev 4:11)
Jesus often spoke of transformation before he actually demonstrated it! The "metamorphosis" of the caterpillar illustrates this universal truth; As does virtually every seed! (Jn 12:24-26)

1. Transformation Defined. Ro 12:2

A. What it's not: *"be not conformed to this world: "*

- 1) "Conformed" (sychēmatizō) From syn (prep) together with and schema: fashioned, molded or shaped by exterior (worldly) values.
- 2) Why not? Satan uses the things of this world to distract, divide and destroy us. (Mk 4:19; Jn 10:10; 2 Cor 4:4; 2 Tim. 4:10; 1 Jn 2:15-17)

B. What it is: *"be ye transformed"* (metamorphōō) Meta with, and morpho: shaped, adjusted

- 1) Adjusted "With" who or what? 1 Co 3:18 *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."*
- 2) This is at the heart of reconciliation. 2 Cor 5:20 *"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ... we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God"* (Katallassō: to changed, transformed mutually)
- 3) Calvary made this possible. 2 Cor 5:21

2. Transformation Described

A. What does God use to shape us? Ro 8:28 *"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."*

- 1) This includes the good, bad, and ugly! (Isaiah 48:10,11; Mal. 3:17; James 1:3; 1 Pt 1:7)

B. What's God trying to shape us into? Ro 8:29 *"whom he did foreknow, he did also predestinate to be conformed into the image of his son, That he might be the firstborn of many brethren!"*

Gal. 4:19 *"My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you."*

C. Why is God trying to shape us? Ro 8:29 *"conformed into the image of his son, That he might be the firstborn of many brethren!"*

- 1) We're born again to reproduce! Mt. 29:18-20
- 2) We're shaped to serve. Eph. 2:10 *"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good (agathos: beneficial) works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."*

3. Transformation illustrated:

A. Jesus and His Disciples John 9:5 *"As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world."*

- 1) But in Mt. 5:14,15 *"Ye are the light of the world... Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

B. So why do so few of Christ's followers reflect God's light?

- 1) The devices/ distractions of the devil. 2 Cor 2:11; Mark 4:19; John 10:10
- 2) The seduction of self sufficiency. John 5:40

B. Historical precedent at Sinai!

- 1) God's purposes were clearly stated. Ex. 19:5,6 *"if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me... 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests..."*
- 2) Their Pause was eventually revealed. Ex. 20:18,19 *"the thunders, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off and said to Moses, 'Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us'"*
- 3) God's explanation/invitation was ignored. Ex. 20:20,21 *"Moses said: 'Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not. And the people stood afar off, Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."*
- 4) God revealed himself more personally to Moses, and through him, to Israel and us!
- 5) Those that "stood afar off" were eventually ensnared by Satan! (Ex. 32)
- 6) God used this "crisis" to grow/transform Moses even more (Ex. 33-34) such that his face physically reflected God's light and glory. (Ex. 34:29-35)

Conclusion:

God's people of all ages seem to be divided between these two basic groups.

- 1) Those who maintain a "safe distance" and are content to know "about God".
"the people...stood afar off...let not God speak with us lest we die" Ex. 20:18,1
- 2) Those who want to get as close to God as possible so as to "know/experience" Him.
"Moses drew near unto the thick Darkness where God was." Ex. 20:21

Paul used this ancient contrast to illustrate a great truth in 2 Cor 3:13-18

*"Moses, put a veil over his face... But their (Israel's) minds were blinded: for until this day remains the same veil ... in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ... even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart.
when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away."*

Application:

How do we "turn to the Lord" and experience the Transformational Power of His resurrection?

- 1) Relinquish (surrender) control. Ro 12:1 *"Present your bodies a living sacrifice"*
 - 2) Resist Satan's attempts to mold you. Ro. 12:2 *"Be not conformed to this world"*
 - 3) Repent (Renovate) your thinking! *"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind"*
 - a) Identify the "stinking thinking" (2 Cor 10:3)
 - b) Tear down the strongholds of deceit. (1Jn 1:9)
 - c) Replace them with "towers of truth" from God's word. Jn 15:3; Eph. 5:26
- Ps 119:9-11 *"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee, oh let me not wonder from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."*

Only when our hearts turn to God in genuine repentance can the

"veil be taken away" (See 2 Cor 4:4) So we can "with open face behold as in a glass the glory of the Lord, Be changed into the same image (Ro. 8:29) from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor 3:18