

The Transformed Life

I. Introduction

- A. The Holy Spirit through Paul exhorted the saints at Rome (and exhorts us) to not conform to the world, but to be transformed so as to discern God's will for our lives. **Romans 12:2**
- B. Consider ten examples given in Scripture of how this transformation process should affect us.

II. Life of Humility

- A. The transformed life God calls us to live is a life of humility. While worldliness leads to pride, the one who lets God transform him or her humbly recognizes that we are nothing without Him. One application of this is humbly viewing one's function in the church. **Romans 12:3** (cf. v. 4-5); **12:16**

III. Life of Right Perspective

- A. As humility exemplifies, being transformed by God's Word leads to a proper perspective on life. This proper perspective involves defining good and evil according to God's standards, abhorring what He says is evil, and cleaving to what He says is good. **Romans 12:9**; **2 Peter 2:7-8**

IV. Life of Brotherly Love

- A. Those transformed as God desire also have the care, sympathy, kindness, and brotherly love toward others that mimics the selflessness of Jesus. **Romans 12:10, 13, 15**; **Philippians 2:4-5**

V. Life of Diligence

- A. Moreover, the transformed life God calls us to is one of diligence. Unlike the worldly approach of denying personal responsibility, the one transformed by God diligently pursues all that He demands of us. **Romans 12:11a**; **2 Peter 1:5, 10**

VI. Life of Zeal

- A. Allowing God to transform us also leads to being fervent in spirit. The one transformed by God avoids spiritual apathy, having a strong zeal for God and the works He promotes. **Romans 12:11b**; **Revelation 3:15, 19**

VII. Life of Service

- A. The transformed lifestyle is also a life of service. Unlike the world's view of "greatness," the one transformed by God does "great" things by being a *servant*. **Romans 12:11c**; **Matthew 20:25-28**

VIII. Life of Joyful Hope

- A. The transformed life is also one of joy and hope. Those transformed by God have a basis for joy and hope that is far stronger and more constant than what the world looks to for these things. **Romans 12:12a**; **Matthew 6:19-20**

IX. Life of Endurance

- A. Those transformed according to God's will are also patient through trials. Instead of allowing trials to "control" us as the world does, those who choose to please God steadfastly do what's right, even when it is difficult. **Romans 12:12b**

X. Life of Prayerfulness

- A. One application of the steadfastness of the transformed lifestyle is constancy in prayer. **Romans 12:12c**; **Luke 6:12**

XI. Life of Peace-seeking

- A. Finally, the transformed life is one of seeking peace with others. Instead of seeking revenge against those who mistreat us, the one following God's pattern leaves vengeance to Him. **Romans 12:14, 17-21**