

Marks of a Transformed life

Jesus who “came from the Father” ... gives us an insight that we might never have known...



Luk 15:10 Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Cherubim-
Ezekiel 1,10

Seraphim-
Isaiah 6



Men “reason” some things about God that are wrong

- Not “far off” and emotionless (Ps 139)
- Family terms

A Living Sacrifice

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Rom 12:2 And do not be **conformed** to this world, but be **transformed** by the **renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Paul explores the concepts of “*conforming*” & “*transforming*” to show the *superiority of transforming*. Today we will explore these ideas so we can explore the Marks of a Transformed Life

Conform = *behave according to socially acceptable conventions or standards*

- “Big Joe” (prison warden) speaking about “jailhouse conversions”
- Kids growing up in the Church
- Conforming lacks commitment & conviction

Transform = *make a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of*

2Co 3:15-18 But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart.

2Co 3:16 Nevertheless **when one turns to the Lord**, the veil is taken away.

2Co 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is **liberty**.

2Co 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

Marks of Transformation...

- *New life ... rejecting sin*

Rom 6:4-6 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life**.

Rom 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,

Rom 6:6 knowing this, that our **old** man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should **no longer be slaves of sin**.

THE PROOF OF OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

One way to be confident of our relationship with Christ is to see

TANGIBLE EVIDENCE – A TRANSFORMED LIFE.

The Bible mentions several ways that we can recognize that God really has entered our lives, and is beginning to accomplish His work within us.

- *Growth via prayer & meditation & Bible study*

2Pe 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen. (G5485 – charis – gratitude, favour)

- *With Spirit indwelling we are a new creation ...and ambassadors of reconciliation*

2Co 5:17-20 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

2Co 5:18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the **ministry of reconciliation**,

2Co 5:19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed **to us** the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then, **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

- *Transformers grow in Love & they endure all*

2Th 3:5 Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ. (G5281 - Cheerful endurance, NIV - perseverance)



- *Transformers will Put On the New Self*

Col 3:1-17 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 **Set your minds on things above**, not on earthly things.

Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ, **who is your life**, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Col 3:5 **Put to death**, therefore, whatever belongs to your **earthly nature**: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.

Col 3:6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.

Col 3:7 You **used** to walk in these ways, in the **life you once lived**.

Col 3:8 But now you must also **rid yourselves** of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Col 3:9 **Do not lie** to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices

Col 3:10 and have put on the **new self**, which is being **renewed** in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Col 3:11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Col 3:12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, **clothe yourselves** with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

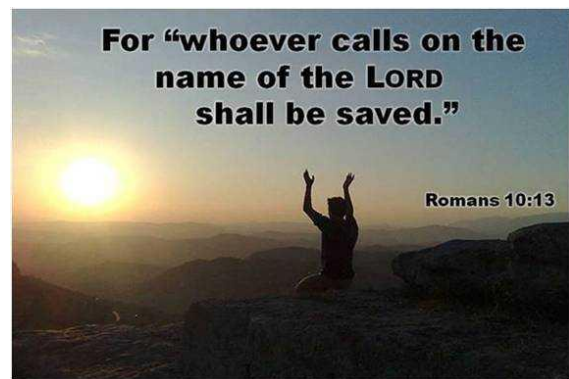
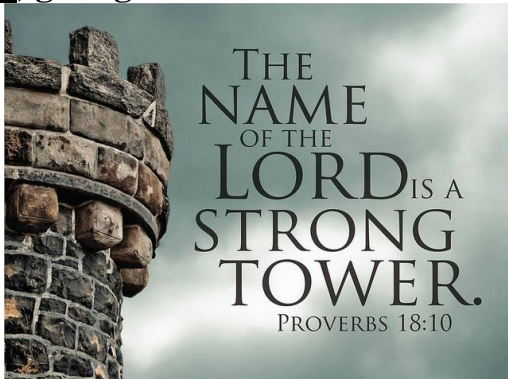
Col 3:13 **Bear** with each other and **forgive** one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Col 3:14 And over all these virtues put on **love**, which binds them all together in perfect **unity**.

Col 3:15 Let the **peace of Christ** rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be **thankful**.

Col 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all **wisdom** through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with **gratitude** in your hearts.

Col 3:17 And **whatever you do**, whether in word or deed, **do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**



- *Transformers repent when they get off course*

Joe 2:12-13 "Even now," declares the LORD, "**return** to me with **all your heart**, with fasting and weeping and mourning."

Joe 2:13 **Rend your heart** and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious & compassionate, slow to anger & abounding in love, & he relents from sending calamity.

- *A transformed life bears good fruit NOT bad fruit*

Luk 6:43-45 "No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.

Luk 6:44 Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars.

Luk 6:45 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Gal 5:19-23 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;

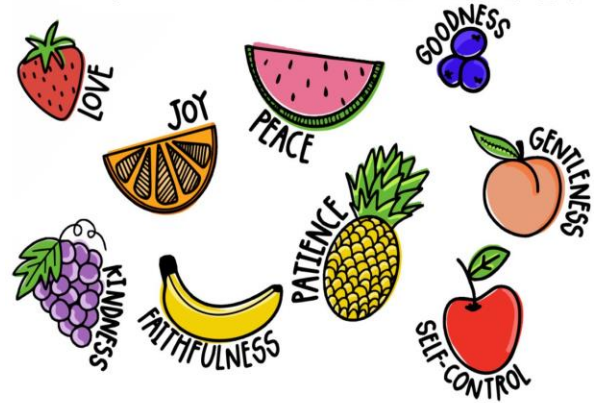
Gal 5:20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

Gal 5:21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.

I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Gal 5:22-23 But the **fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



- *A transformed life seeks & promotes unity in the church*

1Cor 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you **agree with one another** in what you say and that there be **no divisions** among you, but that you be **perfectly united in mind and thought.**

- *A transformed life is committed to God's New Covenant with a New heart*

Jer 31:33-34 "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "**I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.** I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Jer 31:34 No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because **they will all know me**, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will **forgive** their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

Eze 36:25-27 I will sprinkle **clean water** on you, and you will be **clean**; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.

Eze 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.



- *A Transformed life is open and yielding to God*

Psa 139:23-24 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.
Psa 139:24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Gal 2:19-20 "For through the law I **died** to the law so that I might **live for God**.

Gal 2:20 I have been **crucified with Christ** and I no longer live, but **Christ lives in me**. The life I now live in the body, **I live by faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Col 1:26 the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people.

Col 1:27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Col 1:28 He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ.



- *Transformers will live a New Life*

Eph 4:17-32 So I tell you this, and **insist on it** in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the **futility** of their **thinking**.

Eph 4:18 They are **darkened** in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the **ignorance** that is in them due to the **hardening of their hearts**.

Eph 4:19 Having lost all **sensitivity**, they have given themselves over to **sensuality** so as to indulge in every kind of **impurity**, and they are full of **greed**.

Eph 4:20 That, however, is not the **way of life** you learned

Eph 4:21 when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

Eph 4:22 You were taught, with regard to your **former** way of life, to **put off your old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

Eph 4:23 to be made **new** in the attitude of your minds;

Eph 4:24 and to put on the **new** self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Eph 4:25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Eph 4:26 "In your **anger** do not **sin**": Do not let the **sun go down** while you are still angry,

Eph 4:27 and do not give the **devil a foothold**.

Eph 4:28 Anyone who has been stealing must **steal no longer**, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

Eph 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for **building others up according to their needs**, that it may benefit those who listen.

Eph 4:30 And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were **sealed** for the **day of redemption**.

Eph 4:31 **Get rid** of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

Eph 4:32 **Be kind** and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- *A Transformed life – a “true Christian” – has God’s Holy Spirit*

Act 2:38 Peter replied, "**Repent** and be **baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the **forgiveness** of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**."

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the **Spirit**, if so be that the **Spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man **have not** the **Spirit of Christ**, he is **none of His**.

Tit 3:5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his **mercy**. He **saved** us through the washing of **rebirth** and **renewal** by the **Holy Spirit**

- *A Transformed life has assurance of Salvation*

Php 1:6 being confident of this, that He who **began** a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

In Closing... scripture makes clear what is involved in a Transformed life. “Simple conformity” to God’s ways is not enough – our conviction must be with **our whole heart**.

It is awesome to see over a number of years the change and Transformation **in “others”** ... and especially for us to see the changes **in our own lives** as we walk with God

- *Transformation* is **powerful evidence** to help us have **confidence in our Salvation** & surprisingly ...
- our *Transformation* & the miracles involved in our lives to be **brought close to God** is also a **powerful “proof”** to each of us – that **God surely exists!** ...
As Christ lives **in us & with us!**

