

# The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXIII

May 25, 2014

Number 21

## METAMORPHOSIS

Romans 12:2 sets forth the essential condition of the worship called for in verse 1 - namely a radical change of personality. Paul discusses patterns of conduct. The right pattern of conduct is essential. Some fail because the wrong pattern is chosen and determines what they are. The world has a form or fashion. Two things mark this worldly lifestyle. It is temporal, fleeting, passing; and it is tainted by evil.

The world must not be permitted to determine what we are. One can almost imperceptibly slip into a worldly lifestyle and end up doing as the rest of the people do. It is the dominant lifestyle - what most people do, the "thing to do," the "in" thing. So we adapt; the world shaped our lives. Thus we get all wrapped up in things that are temporal; all thought is oriented to what is seen and temporal. We become contaminated by the world's evil.

The Greek (for "fashioned") has to do with the outward form or fashion - the visible life, what others see of us. Even this is to mark us as belonging to another world, as folk who expect to go to heaven.

The positive side is more than an opposite - outward conformity to a right standard. The Greek "metmorphoo" means "to change into another form, to transform". This metamorphosis involves not just outward conformity but the inner essence, the essence of what we are. The outward appearance that we present to the world is to reflect this changed inward personality.

The means of the transformation is given - "by the renewing of your mind." The mind is the "thinking power." The inward personality is transformed by means of a change in our way of thinking. The Christian mind is no longer dominated by the flesh (Col. 2:18), ignoring the will of God, seeking its own way without God, but undergoes a process of being made new under divine influence.

The Greek verb is used of the "transfiguration" of Jesus. The only other occurrence is in 2 Cor. 3:18 which sums up the process. With the glory of the Lord as revealed in Scripture constantly before our minds we are changed into the same image. Transformation is worked by dwelling upon the glory of Christ.

Finally, the object of the transformation - "that you may prove what is the will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect". The transformation aims at a person who uses their mind to find out the will of God and to do it. That is the whole aim of this transformed life. Now we understand the "living sacrifice." The constant surrender to the will of God is the sacrifice of the body to God, offering it up to him for use in his service.

L. A. Mott

# BulletinBoard

Sermon  
Notes:

AM Lesson - Steve -  
PM Lesson - David Haley -

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitsch and Don Hurd.**

**NEWS AND NOTES:** Only news I have heard is good. Deban and baby doing well. Gorski's doing well. David is somewhat worried about the Whopping Cough outbreak in Harris Co. Baby can't be immunized till three months.

We have several travelling. Anita and I are in Kentucky till next Wed. Matt Miles will be out of town during the week for most of June. Business trips. Several have been gone, and I hope they have safe trips home by Sunday.

New Classes begin next Sunday:  
Psalms - teachers are Ryan Renz and Michael Krueger  
Room 107-109  
James and Hebrews - Zach Kelsey and Alex Morolez  
Room 102  
Bible Geography - Samuel Camp  
Room 204

## Summary of Twenty-Third Psalm

*Beneath me: green pastures;  
Beside me: still waters;  
With me: my Shepherd;  
Before me: a table;  
Around me: my enemies;  
After me: goodness and mercy;  
Beyond me: the house of the Lord.*

(taken from Lincoln Bible Reader)

Notice the blessings that are ours if we are those trusting in the Lord. Outside the Lord we seem to be on our own, and the end is bleak.

*"If a man says he is going to do this or that tomorrow, ask him what he did yesterday."*

*"Sincere humility attracts. Lack of humility subtracts. Artificial humility detracts."*

*"Christianity refuses to be proven first and practiced afterward: Its practice and its proof go hand in hand."*

*"The old-time family doctor has just about disappeared, says one writer. He probably dropped out at about the same time as the old-fashioned family."*

### Assignments for today

Sunday, May 25, 2014

#### Morning Service

Announcements.....Jack Smith  
Hymn Director.....Robert McDonald  
Scripture Reading.....Phil. 3:10-11, 17-21  
Scripture Reader.....Jay Martin  
Opening Prayer.....Weston Hodge  
Closing Prayer.....Jack Smith

#### Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Michael Robinson  
Opening Prayer.....David Gorski  
Closing Prayer.....Jack Smith

## BELLAIRE church of Christ

8001 South Rice Ave • P.O. Box 1029

Bellaire, Texas 77402

713/668-4810

<http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org>

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible study  
5:00 PM Worship

#### Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional  
**Minister and editor**  
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

*The Reminder* is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire