

# The World's Mold

## Romans 12:1-2

Be Not Conformed but Be Transformed.

1. *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.*
2. Do not *conform* any longer to the pattern of this world, but be *transformed* by the *renewing* of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### I. Do Not Conform

*su-schematizo* = *su* – union with, *lit.* – being fashioned, imprinted.

Passive Voice: It is done to you while you do nothing. A trophy. Requires no action on your part – just sit there, do nothing, and you *will* conform to the world (on the one hand). On the other hand, *HE HAS DONE THE WORK* and we are the recipients of that work. “Form” – Take on a form. The idea is of a scheme, a system, a plan, or a schematic. JB Philips translates, “*Don’t let the world squeeze you into the world’s mold*” (i.e.) Play Dough – squeeze, tattoos, clay, coin, stamp, sleep wrinkles, cartoon rub offs.

**Conform not to what?** The world, *aion* = present age. [Gal. 1:4](#) – *rescue us from present evil age.*

### The Present Evil Age

- The present evil age has an agenda – and it is not God’s! [Romans 1:28-29](#)
- The present evil age has a ruler - and it is not the Lord Jesus Christ! [Eph. 2:1-3](#)
- The present evil age has a plan - and it is not to take you to heaven. [2 Cor. 2:11](#) “*Lest Satan take advantage of us.*” For we are not ignorant of his devices – νοημάτια, perceptions, mind games.
- This present age has an agenda delineated in [Romans 1:28-29](#):
  - 1.) To eliminate moral absolutes.
  - 2.) To weaken religious influence.
  - 3.) To promote toleration.

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- 4.) To indulge sexual appetites.
- 5.) To change ethics and moral values.
- 6.) To destroy family values, traditional marriage.
- 7.) To get as much as you can one time around.

By passively, and unwittingly, allowing yourself to drift with the current, you are sliding along with the world, the present evil age. You were like that, but not anymore.

SO LET GOD RENEW, REVIVE AND RESTORE YOUR MIND TO BE LIKE JESUS.

### II. Be Transformed – μεταμορφόω – “Transformed” – “metamorphosis”

Caterpillar = butterfly, grub = dragonfly, tadpole = frog. Also Passive: It is done to you, you do not transform yourself. You cooperate in it. Trans = “To migrate or move from one state or place to another.” *Transit, Trans Am, Transition, Transportation, Transcontinental, Trans-Atlantic, Translation, Transfer, Transport, Transformer, Transitional Care*. In the New Testament: Jesus was *trans-figured*; same word. [Romans 8:29](#): Purpose is to be conformed [συν-μορφους] to the image of his Son.

[2 Corinthians 5:17](#) “Therefore, if (1<sup>st</sup> class) anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”

### III. By the Renewal of Your Mind – ἀνα-καλνώσει = Renewed or made brand new. Synonym = νεός, new-born “Let renewal be done to you.” Renewal: Always, the Holy Spirit renews us. Regenerates us. Transforms us.

**The Old Man:** Is corrupt, defiled, depraved, dead in sin, slave to Satan, and enemy of God.

[Romans 1:28-29](#) Depraved. [2 Corinthians 4:4](#) – Blinded. [1 Corinthians 6:11](#): “and such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”

## The World's Mold (Continued)

**The New Man:** You've been born again. You've been changed. You have been made a new creature.

Let God continue the job! God longs to make you new! You are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works. – [Ephesians 2:10](#)

Day by day, God is making you new. *Let him do it!*

[2 Corinthians 4:16](#) *"For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day".*

[Ephesians 4:23](#) *"And be renewed **in the spirit** of your mind;"*

[Colossians 3:10](#) *"And have put on the new man, which is renewed **in knowledge after the image of Him** that created him":*

### **Conclusion:**

How to renew the Mind?

1. **By Loving Jesus Christ supremely** – fixing our eyes on Jesus. *"Behold the glory of the Lord"...*

[2 Corinthians 3:18](#) *"But we all, with open face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are changed" metamorphasized (μεταμορφούμεθα – PPI 1<sup>st</sup> p.pl. of μεταμορφόω) into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away." Vs. 17 "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. Vs. 18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." (Even as by the Spirit of the Lord.) [Mark 12:30](#) "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **mind**, and with all thy **strength**: this is the first commandment." [Luke 10:27](#) "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself".*

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2. **By yielding to the Holy Spirit** – fixing our eyes on Jesus. [Romans 6:12](#) *“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.”* [Vs. 13](#) *“Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.”* [Vs. 14](#) *“For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.”* [Vs. 16](#) *“Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey – whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?”*
3. **By Soaking in the Word** – “fixing our eyes on Jesus” [1 Peter 2:2](#) – *“As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby: Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.”* [Vs. 3](#) *“now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.”* [2 Peter 1:3](#) – *“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.”* [Vs. 4](#) *“Through these he has given us his exceeding great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.”*  
[Acts 20:32](#) – *“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, [ἐποικοδομέω = finish the structure] and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”*  
[Psalm 19:7](#) – *“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.”* [Vs. 8](#) – *“The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.”* [Vs. 9](#) – *“The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.”* [Vs. 10](#) – *“They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.”* [Vs. 11](#) *“By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.”*

[NAHUM 1:7b](#)

**“STRONGHOLD IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE”**

[ROMANS 12:1, 2](#)