

ROMANS: PART 75
SEPTEMBER 28, 1997

THE DOCTRINE OF CHRISTIAN CONSECRATION. Pt 3

Renewing Your Mind
Romans 12:1,2

The Difference Between Rom 12:1 and Rom 12:2

1. The consecration of yourself is *definitive* (vs. 1) but the application is *progressive* (vs. 2)
2. There is an obstacle in the way: *worldliness*. We must *work* to apply our consecration

The Two Ways Of Life: Rom 12:2

1. The Way of the World (lit: *this age* -- a temporary & alien thing on the earth)
 - ◆ It is a way of thinking & living that is set against God. It is anti-God.
 - ◆ It is organized & influenced by Satan
 - ◆ It's the fallen human nature working itself out in a million details & aspects of human life
 - ◆ It is unholy, selfish, self-love in action
 - ◆ It is ever changing (hiding its ugly, cruel, vile, dark nature) It is passing away.
2. The Way of the Lord.
 - ◆ It is a way of thinking & living that is under God. It is pleasing to God.
 - ◆ It is produced by the Spirit of God
 - ◆ It's the regenerate nature working itself out in a million details & aspects of human life
 - ◆ It is God-centeredness, faith, love, obedience, & service in action
 - ◆ It is eternal in nature & reflects the world to come.

The Two Options That Christians Face. Rom 12:2.

1. Conformed (συσχηματίζω = suschematizo. I.E. with the scheme):
 - ◆ Do not let the age in which you live force you into its scheme of thinking & behaving
 - ◆ Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold. J.B. Phillips
 - ◆ This is a superficial involvement, dulling you, engaging you.
 - ◆ This is nevertheless a powerful influence -- to conform, to compromise. Lev 18:3; Mt 6:8
2. Transformed (μεταμορφοῦμαι = metamorphomai. I.E. metamorphosis)
 - ◆ Change at the deepest level: A substantial remaking of the mind, conscience & will.
 - ◆ A new creature with the mind & heart of Christ -- acting what you truly are!
 - ◆ Lk 5:27-28; Lk 19:8; Phil 3:20-21.
3. You cannot be both conformed & transformed. It is one or the other. Mt 6:24

The Process: Renewing Your Mind Rom 12:2

1. Doctrine: His thoughts become my thoughts.
2. Personal study & memorization of Scripture.
3. Fellowship with Christians who know & love the Scripture.
4. Accountability with Christians who know & love the Scripture.
5. Family devotions -- a family alter before God.

The Product: You prove God's way of life (to yourself & others): Rom 12:2

1. God's way is *good*:
 - ◆ Used for good gifts & God's character. Mt 7:11; Rom 12:2,9.
 - ◆ "This is right!"
2. God's way is *acceptable*:
 - ◆ Used for a slave/employee in submission. Titus 2:9; Rom 14:18.
 - ◆ "I like this!"
3. God's way is *perfect*:
 - ◆ Used to describe the complete & eternal end. Col 1:28.
 - ◆ "This is Fullness! Christmas! A Great Family-time!"