

Once Conformed and Transformed

1 June 2026

Conformation: made to resemble; to make like; assuming the same form.

Conformation is more gradual and increase process; while transformation is typically more sudden and dramatic.

Conform: refers to the act of shaping oneself to resemble or align with something else, particularly in a moral or spiritual context.

Transformation: Greek word is "metamorphoo," conveying the idea of a complete change in form or nature. This is not a superficial transformation but involves a deep spiritual renewal.

How does a caterpillar turn into a butterfly?

Metamorphosis: a complete change of form, structure, substance, as a transformation; any complete change in appearance, character, circumstances, etc.

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

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

Renewing of the mind is a process of transformation. It is a spiritual transformation.

Renewal is by the Holy Ghost, a rebirthing process

This transformation assists believers in becoming keen in spiritual discernment.

Spiritual discernment teaches believers how to live and line up according to God's principles and guidance in life.

Renewing of the mind is essential for spiritual growth and development according to God's standards.

Galatians 5:16- This I say then, Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

17- For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

To become reconnected to God, we must be born again. Must receive the Holy Ghost.

Romans 8:29- For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

The Holy Ghost transforms us to be conformed to the image and likeness of God.

In the beginning man was created in the image and likeness of God.

Man's disobedience caused a separation from God's image and likeness.

Jesus came to return man to God's image and likeness.

The transformation of the mind teaches man to meditate and operate spiritually.

1 Corinthians 15:47- The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.

48- As is earthy, such are they also that are earthy: as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

49- And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

God's will for mankind was to manifest His glory in the earth.

Glory is God's manifested presence. It surrounds God's holiness, power, beauty and visible manifestation of His essence (existence).

The glory of God highlights how it transforms us as believers, causing us to reflect God's greatness and holiness in our lives.

We are instructed in Psalm 29:2- Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Jesus was the example on how to manifest God's glory. Jesus was the glory of the Father.

John 1:14- And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

God sent His Son as a blueprint of how we should manifest His glory. Before receiving the Holy Ghost, man did not know how to glorify God. Man became subject to the things in the world. Man fulfilled the desires of his heart.

God knew man before he was formed in his mother's womb, He knew him.

To know identity. A returning to the Creator and walk in fulfillment and fullness there must be a transformation to conform.

Romans 8:29- For whom He foreknow, He also predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn amongst many brethren.

The spiritual goal is:

God has predetermined plan for mankind based on foreknowledge.

The goal is believers put on the Lord Jesus Christ's qualities and virtues.

Believers become conformed into that same image of the firstborn.

Once identity is known outlook on life changes. The outlook becomes a transformation, and the transformation begins a mind renewal releasing an understanding of purpose and calling.

Philippians 4:8- Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Virtue: moral excellence and righteousness; moral integrity

In that change, there is peace, love, joy, and walk in the fruit of the Spirit and not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

To conform there must be a transformation by a renewing of the mind.

Before the foundation of the world God had plans for mankind. These plans entered when we entered this world.

Romans 8:29- For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Predestined: predetermined the fate of individuals. Particularly concerning salvation.

God has an eternal plan for His creation.

Ephesians 1:3- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.

4- According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love

5- Having predestined us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will

6- To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the beloved

God loves us so much that He designed a plan to bring us back to Himself.

His arms are opened to receive us whenever we decide to fulfill the purpose He placed in us.

He made it possible for us to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

We must be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

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

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

There is pressure in conforming into the image and likeness of God.

To be transformed thinking must change.

Making right choices is possible because of the transforming of the mind.

No longer moved by the lust of the flesh, lust of eyes, and pride of life; the things that's in the world.

Transformation and conformation are possible now there has been new birth. Now walking in the newness of life.

No more excuses, justification, deceitful thought or reasoning. In this world but not of this world. Walking in the image and likeness of God. He made it possible for transformation and conformation.

Remember:

Transformation refers to a thorough/complete change in form or nature, while conforming involves adapting to existing standards/patterns.

Transformation is significantly changing often from the inside out, resulting in a new state or identity. It is more foundational and involves reformation.

Reformation: changing into better state or character, lifestyle and correcting bad habits or practices.

Conformation refers to the act of adapting to established standards or structures. It involves external pressures that lead to a change in behavior or appearance.

Conclusion

Transformation is a deeper, internal change, whereas conformation is about fitting into existing frameworks.

Questions

Can you think of anyone in scripture who experienced transformation and conformation?

When did this take place?

Was it permanent or temporary?