



Transformation is High Risk

One of my favorite passages of Scripture is a cogent statement in Paul's letter to the early Christians in Rome. Romans 12:2 It is one of the most spiritual statements in Scripture:

Adapt yourselves no longer to the pattern of this present world, but let your minds be remade and your whole nature thus transformed, then you will be able to discern the will of God.

Most of our prayers reflect the reverse attitude asking God to discern our wills and respond accordingly. What a mess the world and our lives would be in if God did that—at least if our wills were in their usual *mode*.

Paul is on target when he informs us that we need to be in a different *mode* if we are to perceive God's will for us and do it. We need for God's Spirit to *remake our minds* and *transform our whole nature* not just once but over and over again.

The threat this poses if this were to occur is that we will be taken out of our usual *mode of living* and turn our backs on much of what we have come to value in our society and family. “Adapt yourselves no longer to the pattern of this present world . . .” That is an unbelievable challenge! Change—transformation—new (way of) life! However, that is what spirituality is about. It is extremely high risk. That’s why most Christian church-goers choose routine religious behavior of only “loving one’s neighbor as one’s self” as Jesus commanded, without committing to a truly spiritual life of “loving God with all one’s heart, mind and soul” which is the other half of Jesus’ commandment.



Reread Paul’s statement above. Let it sink into your heart and mind.