

## TRANSFORMATION, (Intro)

Teleiology is a theology term used to describe the study of spiritual growth maturity in Christian Way of Life.

(Heb.5:14) “But solid food is for the mature (teleios), who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.” (Matt.4:4)

We are studying 12 church age doctrines that are essential for spiritual growth maturity. Today we are studying the ninth Teleiology doctrine:

Grace	Positional Truth	Angelic Conflict
Dispensations	Spiritual Gifts	Forgiveness
Spirituality	The Will of God	<b>Transformation</b>
The Faith Cycle	Suffering	

Paul introduced the doctrine of Transformation in our lesson text. We will examine Rom.12:1-2, our lesson text by the following four homiletical points.

- **Word of God** “I urge you therefore (Rom.9-11), brethren, by the mercies of God.” (Rom.12:1a)
- **Worship of God** “To present **your bodies** a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” (Rom.12:1b)
- **World of OMCD** “And do not conform to this world.” (Rom.12:2a)
- **Will of God** “But (alla) [contrast] be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Rom.12:2b)

Notice that Paul emphasized two parts of the anatomy of the Church Age Believer (CAB) necessary for TRANSFORMATION: **body** (soma) (Rom.12:1) and **mind** (nous) (Rom.12:2).

**This lesson will study three aspects to Introduction to Transformation.**

It is God desire that every CAB reaches and maintains the status of spiritual growth maturity of Transformation.  
Bob Thieme coined it, the Super Grace life.

### **1. The inferential conjunction (oun) [therefore] connects our lesson text with what was previously taught in (Rom.9-11). Rom.9-11 gives highlights of the transition of dispensations from Israel to Church.**

This dispensational change is explained by the Olive Tree illustration: the natural branch / Israel and wild branch, the church in (Rom.11:17-24)

(Rom.11:33) “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!”

The Doctrine of Transformation was a very important doctrine to Paul, once he understood that the Church Age was the “**Last Hour**” of the “**Last Days.**”

(Heb.1:2) “In these **last days** has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.”

(1 John 2:18) “Children, it is the **last hour**; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen; from this we know that it is the last hour.” (Rev.11:7; 13:1-10; Dan.7)

Paul understood that every CAB was vitally important in the “Last Hour” or church age. This is illustrated by the 20 status-privileges of CAB. 1 of these 20 is Royal Priesthood that is important to transformation (1 Pet.2:5-9).

**2. In order for transformation to take place, the believer priest must understand and do the following:**

(Heb.9-10) “**present** (paristemi / a.a.infin) [to place besides for divine purpose] **your bodies a living** [as opposed to dead / shadow Christology] **and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship** (ten logikos latreia) [reasonable rather than ritual] (Rom.12:1) [royal, holy priest offers his own body].

(Heb.10:9-10) “Then He said, ‘Behold, I have come to do Thy will.’ He takes away the first in order to establish the second. By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

**Why the body of the CAB?** The Holy Spirit indwells every CAB at the moment of grace salvation (1 Cor.6:19-20; Gal.3:2; John 14:16). This makes the CAB’s body the temple of God (naos).

**How do you present it?** You walk by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16-17; 1 Thess.4:1-8). This is the source of priestly service in church age (Rom.6:13; 8:8).

**3. The second thing necessary for Transformation to take place involves both a negative and a positive response in the CAB’s mind to the directive will of God.**

**Negative:** “**Do not be conformed** (me / suschematizo / p.p.impv.2pl) [**stop!**] to this world. “

**Positive:** “**But (alla) [contrast] be transformed** (metamorphoo / p.p.impv.2pl) by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Rom.12:2)

Both of these verbs have prepositional prefixes.

- **Sun** added to schematizo means changeable or to be fashioned into image of the world by cosmos diabolicus thinking. Paul commands us to **stop** doing this.
- **Meta** added to morphoo also means changeable or to be changed in form by the will of God or divine viewpoint thinking.

When we have **OMCD thinking**, Paul says to take it off or lay it aside because it corrupts – “that, in reference to your former manner of life (OM), you lay aside the old self, which is **being corrupted** in accordance with the lusts of deceit (CD).” (Eph.4:22)

**But** “laying aside” **is not enough**, we must also put on the positive or **NMDV thinking** – “And that you **be renewed** in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the **likeness of God** has been created in righteousness and holiness and the truth.” (Eph.4:23-24; Rom.8:29)

The Greek word for renewing is anakainosis. It also has a preposition prefix (ana) [process / NMDV]. It refers to a continuous process by **proving** (to dokimazo / p.a.infin) [absolute results of divine testing] that the **will of God** (directive) is good and acceptable and perfect.