October 31, 2020

Because God loves you, He Provides- Part 144

Did you know that God loves you more than anyone else could ever love you?

God proves His love to you by **His** transforming **love**. **Rom. 12:2** "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be <u>transformed</u> 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."

The Greek term for *transformed* is *metamorphousthe* which means *to be completely changed*, *transfigured*, *made new*. One of the greatest acts of God happens at our salvation. He literally changes us from who we were to someone completely brand new and whole. We use this term in biology to note a complete change in a physical species. The tadpole becomes the frog, the caterpillar becomes a butterfly, etc. But in this sense, God doesn't change our physical appearance, He changes our hearts, our souls and our spirits. He brings what was once dead, back to life. The scripture reminds us that without Christ, we were dead in our trespasses and sins, but through the shedding of His precious, perfect blood, we could have new life. We could be transformed and renewed by changing our minds from a worldly, selfish perspective, to a new and spiritual mind; the mind of Christ in us.

The question comes to mind - can someone who proclaims to be a Christian, but still lives, acts and thinks like the world, really be a Christian? John answers that in 1 John 4:19-20 "We love because He first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen." God is love, so if you have been transformed, you are full of His love and it will be clear that the love of God is in you. Let's love like He loved us.

Dear Father, help us to no longer conform to the ways, thoughts and philosophies of this world, but Lord please transform us more and more into Your likeness every day. In Jesus Name, Amen