THE HEART OF WORSHIP

CONFORMED OR TRANSFORMED?

Romans 12:1-2 Jeff Schreve

I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but 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. Romans 12:1-2

What's involved in worship that pleases God and changes you?

1. It takes a total surrender of self to God.

... which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. Romans 12:1 AMP

A. It is reasonable because of <u>who He is</u>. For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. Romans 11:36

B. It is reasonable because of <u>what He has done</u>. But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ. Ephesians 2:4-5

C. It is reasonable because of <u>what He desires</u>. Give me your heart, my son, and let your eyes delight in my ways. Proverbs 26:23

2. It takes a commitment to be transformed, not conformed.

A. There is pressure from the world to <u>conform us in worship</u>. Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God re-mold your minds from within. Romans 12:2 JBP

B. There is power from the Lord to transform us by worship.

All of us, with no covering on our faces, show the shininggreatness of the Lord as in a mirror. All the time we are being changed to look like Him, with more and more of His shininggreatness. This change is from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18NLV

- 1. The transformed <u>participate</u>, the conformed <u>spectate</u>.
- 2. The transformed <u>fear God</u>, the conformed <u>fear man</u>.
- 3. The transformed are <u>soft clay in the Potter's hands</u>, the conformed are <u>hard</u>, <u>stubborn and rebellious</u>.
- 4. The transformed <u>shine</u>, the conformed <u>whine</u>.

5. The transformed <u>win souls</u>, the conformed <u>don't</u>. And do not be conformed to this world, but 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. Romans 12:1-2

Are you being conformed or transformed?