

**Romans 12:2****Romans 12:2**

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.

The corrected translation developed from the New Testament Greek goes as follows:

**Romans 12:2** - Stop being molded in association with this age but be transformed by means of the renovation of your thought, for the purpose of proving what the will of God is, namely, the good, the well-pleasing, and the complete.

It is obvious to you by now that this verse begins with an imperative of prohibition. We have the negative particle:

*me* along with the present middle imperative of the verb: *suschematizo* - “molded”

**Arndt, William F. and F. Wilber Gingrich. Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, s.v. “suschematizo”: To form or mold after something; to be formed like; to be conformed to; to be guided by.**

**Liddell, Henry G. and Robert Scott. Greek-English Lexicon, s.v. “suschematizo”: To form oneself after another; to be conformed to another's example.**

**Vine, W. E. Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, s.v. “suschematizo”:**

*To fashion or shape one thing like another.*

**Yeager, R. O. The Renaissance New Testament, s.v. “suschematizo”:**

*To form oneself like something else; to conform; to shape one's policy in conformity with another.*

**Zondervan. Analytical Greek Lexicon, s.v. “suschematizo”:**

*To fashion in accordance with; to conform or assimilate one's self to.*

Each resource maintains the same idea of fashioning, conforming, or shaping your personal inventory of ideas in accordance with some outside source of information or example.

As we are about to learn in our study of neurology, the human mind has free will which can make instant decisions, but the overall vision, lifestyle, or way of life associated with every person's soul is constructed not from one decision but on a long series of decisions interlaced over a long period of time.

To alter your thinking on one particular idea may change your vision, or lifestyle, or way of life to that degree. But it is only one small alteration in a prolonged process if any lasting and effectual change is to take place.

The long series of decisions which allows one's soul to be shaped by outside sources may be compared to the tediously slow process of a potter molding a lump of clay.

We will learn in our study about how the human brain accumulates an inventory of ideas by making slight chemical and electrical changes in the make up of its neurons. The change occurs by virtue of what is learned and every piece of knowledge which is programmed into the brain has its own unique chemical structure.

However, one of the startling things we are going to discover in our study is that although volition does indeed hold the key to any change of thought in the human soul, for those who are negative and reversionistic, their vision, lifestyle, and way of life is negatively influenced by their environment.

There is a reason for this: the reversionist has lost control of his own soul and due to personal insecurity feels he must conform to outside forces. To the degree that he conforms is the degree to which he becomes a slave to his environment. The reality of this is unmistakable and the subtlety of its use by Satan in his plan is astounding.

We see the validity of the principle in the next word which identifies the thing to which the person becomes molded . . . the instrumental of association from the noun: *aion* - “*this age*.”

This age refers to the dispensation of the intensified Angelic Conflict, the Church Age. From Pentecost to the Rapture, Satan’s deceit and duplicity is in top form and tragically influences the crippled souls of those who conform to his plan. So, the negative mandate which opens this verse reads, “*Stop being molded in association with this age ...*”

Next comes the alternative, introduced by the conjunction: *alla* - “*but*.”

What follows is another imperative mood but this one is a direct positive mandate. The conjunction *alla* sets up a complete contrast between the negative mandate to stop being molded and to start doing something else, which is stated in the present passive imperative of the verb: *metamorphoo* - “*be transformed*.”

The reversionist is commanded to stop being molded to this world but rather to be transformed. The verbs involved—*suschematizo* for “molded” and *metamorphoo* for “transformed”—are both in the progressive present tense. The progressive present indicates that the two imperatives are to be fulfilled simultaneously.

In other words, at the same time one’s soul is not being molded by the Cosmic Academy, it is instead being transformed by the Grace Academy.

The verb for “*molded*” however is in the middle voice which indicates that the subject—the reversionist— participates in the action of the verb thus indicating mental assent to demon influence.

The verb “*transformed*” however, is passive indicating that the reconstruction of the soul is completely up to the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

Both are imperatives meaning that the reversionist is under orders to simultaneously stop the action of “*being molded*” while at the same time submit to the action of “*being transformed*.”