

## 8-11-19 A Closer Look: Romans 12:2 – 2 Cor 5:17 – Hebrews 11:1

- **Pre-Offering Shout Out**
  - o Baptism Grill and Chill rescheduled for Wednesday August 21 from 6:00 to 8:00.
- **One Minute Blessing**
  - o Wood City Music Festival and Community Worship Service at 11:00.
- **A Closer Look: Favorite Verses Explored**
- Looking at the most quoted verses in the Bible. Are they taken out of context, do they present only part of the truth, or do they really mean what we think they mean?? That is the question!
- This week we look at 3 famous verses!! Trying to tell the whole story as best we can.
- 1) First famous verse: **Romans 12:2**
- Oh I love this verse!! Don't conform but be transformed!! Yah Mon, You Betcha!!
  - o What is the pattern of this world? Transformed into what??
  - o We are called out of "the world" by God to be different. To see the world differently. To think differently. To have a different Spirit, different values, and different motivations.
  - o Then, and only then, will we know the will of God.
    - Without revelation and clarity from God you just don't see it.
    - But from my personal experience: it seems so obvious from both sides!!
    - Sadly, the pattern of this world can be prevalent in churches and in individual Christians.
- 2) So, how do we "be transformed"? Second famous verse: **2 Corinthians 5:17**
- Get yourself "in Christ!" Then the old is gone and the new has come!! AMEN!!
  - o Are you "in Christ" or "in" something else? In your head, in confusion, in despair, pattern, etc.
  - o What does Christian culture consider "in Christ" and how does God define "in Christ"?
  - o Hint: **2 Corinthians 5:15**. This is transformed life rather than conformed to the pattern!!
    - If Jesus is your co-pilot, then switch seats!! ☺
  - o Are you "in" or are you "out"? How in do you have to be to be in?
    - Have you stuck a toe in? Waded in? Jumped in? How in do you want to be?
    - I implore you, go all in! **2 Corinthians 5:17-21**
- 3) So, how do we get "in Christ"? We access the grace of God through faith! Remember **Ephesians 2:8-9**.
  - o God reconciling the world to Himself, not counting our sins against us is God's grace.
  - o What is faith? Third famous verse: **Hebrews 11:1 KJV is way better. Compare NIV and KJV.**
    - Substance is from two words put together, "to stand" and "under." Faith is our foundation.
    - Boils down to trusting God, believing in and giving our lives to God, without all the proof.
      - Faith is our proof. Our evidence. It is what we stand on in our walk with Christ.
      - Faith leads to action. Like going all in with Jesus!!
    - It's not blind faith. That leads to **Ephesians 4:14**. But just a toe in doesn't work either.
- \*\*\*\*\***START MUSIC**\*\*\*\*\*
- Recap: we are called not to conform, but to be transformed by the renewing of our mind!
  - o We get transformed when we are "in Christ."
  - o We get "in Christ" by faith.
- Closing verse **Romans 1:20**.
  - o God's creation (the world and the universe) is a parable for us to ponder and find God in.
  - o It's not about doing what I tell you, it's about finding Jesus and going all in for him by faith.
  - o What step do you need to take today? Transformation? Putting your faith in Jesus? Seeking?
    - Whatever it is, jump in.
- Pray.