**CHANGED?**

Romans 12:1-2

There is a song I love entitled, "**I Know I've Been Changed**." It speaks of the transformational power of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer. The singer says emphatically, “I know, I've been changed.” There is no doubt in the singer’s heart regarding the change that has occurred in her life since she met Jesus. There should be a change in the life of everyone who has a true relationship with the Lord Jesus. Although we may not grow at the same speed as some, there still should be some growth. As we grow, our diets and appetites will change from drinking milk to desiring the solid food of the Word of God.

Someone may ask, “How do we change?” Paul says in Romans 12:1-2 that we should offer our bodies upon the altar as a sacrifice to God as a form of worship. We should not live or think as those around us who do not know Jesus. God's desire for all believers is that we conform to the image of His Son (Romans 8:29).

Whenever I come across this scripture, I am reminded of a long time friend who is eleven years younger than I. When I met her, I was already married with a child; and she was single in her early twenties. She didn't grow up in a Christian household, and neither of her parents attended church except for weddings and funerals. She was in a relationship with a man who most would consider a good catch. They may even say he was a God- sent. He was single, attractive, had NO children, had a great career, and owned his home.

One day someone invited her to church where she heard the gospel message. She began asking questions while attending that church's bible study, and fell in love with JESUS! During study, she read how God intended His children to live. As a result, her heart was convicted. She went to the man with whom she had a relationship and told him she was saved, and therefore, would no longer engage in fornication with him. He asked if there was someone else, because he had been in relationships with Christian women before and none of them had a problem with it. She confessed that her heart belonged to another, and His name is Jesus.

I saw that young lady change before my very eyes. She gave up the man many would consider a blessing for the BLESSER! That has been over thirty years, and she has never looked back. There is no way you can have a true encounter with Jesus and remain the same. There has to be a CHANGE! I love what Paul says of himself in Galatians 2:20 which reads***, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me" (NKJV)***.

Have you been changed?

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