

From the MBE Library:

In one of Mrs. Eddy's Bibles, she wrote beside Romans 12:

"Romans 12 is Christian Science." (MBE Accession #B00017.C)

Romans 12:2

“. . . be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

Conformed is *syschematizo* in Greek which means “to conform one’s self, one’s mind and character, to another’s pattern, to fashion one’s self according to (www.blueletterbible.org, Strong’s Lexicon 2964).

And be not conformed ... - The word rendered "conformed" properly means to put on the form, fashion, or appearance of another. It may refer to anything pertaining to the habit, manner, dress, style of living, etc., of another” (Barnes from biblehub.com).

World in Greek is *ion* which means “an unbroken age, perpetuity of time, the worlds, universe” (www.blueletterbible.org, Strong’s Lexicon 165).

Transformed is *metamorphoo* in Greek which means “to change into another form, to transfigure, i.e. resplendent with a divine brightness, to the same image of consummate excellence that shines in Christ, reproduce the same image” (www.blueletterbible.org, Strong’s Lexicon 3339).

Transform: transfigure; a change of heart in man by which his disposition is conformed to the divine image, to holiness and love, to that which conforms to the will of God

“The direction is to, ‘put on another form, change the form of the world for that of Christianity.’ This word would properly refer to the external appearance, but the expression which the apostle immediately uses, "renewing of the mind," shows that he did not intend to use it with reference to that only, but to the charge of the whole man. The meaning is, do not cherish a spirit, devoted to the world, following its vain fashions and pleasures, but cultivate a spirit attached to God, and his kingdom and cause” (Barnes Commentary from www.biblehub.com).

Renewing is *anakainosis* which means “a renewal, renovation, complete change

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for the better" (www.blueletterbible.org, Strong's Lexicon 342).

"Perfect is free from effect, stain, or injury. That which has all its parts complete, or which is not disproportionate" (Barnes Commentary from www.biblehub.com).

"Acceptable - That which will be pleasing to God. or which he will approve. There is scarcely a more difficult text in the Bible than this, or one that is more full of meaning. It involves the main duty of religion to be separated from the world; and expresses the way in which that duty may be performed, and in which we may live so as to ascertain and do the will of God" (Barnes Commentary from www.biblehub.com).

JB Phillips' translation – "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold."

James Moffatt's translation – "Instead of being molded to this world, have your mind renewed, and so be transformed in nature, able to make out what the will of God is, namely what is good and acceptable to Him and perfect."

What's the right way to think speak and act according to God's standards, not the world's.

New in motives and acts, allows us to be image.

Renewal: living a moral life

As disciples of Christ, we are to do God's will