"BUT BE TRANSFORMED"

(Romans 12:1-2, v9-21)

INTRODUCTION - (v1) "I beseech you" is based upon the "mercies of God."

"And do not be conformed to this world" - don't adhere to its value-judgments against God.

"But be transformed" - changed; converted; into an attitude and action of Christian living.

BIBLICAL TRAITS OF "TRANSFORMED" (v12-13)

1. "Rejoicing in hope"

"Hope" - favorable or confident expectation; assurance in a truth; optimistic; and the foundation for our hope is the word of God.

(Titus 1:1-2) "... in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised ... "

(Hebrews 6:9-12) "... show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope ... "

"Rejoicing in" - (Romans 5:1-2) "... and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

2. "Patient in tribulation"

- "Patient" endurance during trials; steadfast; to abide under undeserved affliction.

 (1 Peter 2:20-22) "... but when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this were you called ... "
- "In tribulation" trials; struggles; afflictions; sufferings.

 (2 Timothy 3:10-12) "... what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."

(James 1:1-2) "... but let patience have its perfect work."

What "work" am I supposed to learn from being "patient in tribulation?

3. "Continuing steadfastly in prayer" - (Luke 18:1; 1 Thess. 5:17; 2 Thess. 3:1)

(Ephesians 6:18) "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints"

4. "Distributing to the needs of the saints"

(Galatians 6:9-10) "Let us not grow weary while doing good ... as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of God."

5. "Given to hospitality" - (Hebrews 13:1-2; Matthew 7:12)

"Given to" - you stand at the ready; don't wait to be asked; seize opportunities.

"Hospitality" - I'm a "hospital" open to provide health and healing to others; and I want to be a blessing and be beneficial to others; encouraging; uplifting; hospice.

(1 Thessalonians 5:14) "... comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all."