

### 2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV)

<sup>18</sup>But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

### 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NASB)

<sup>18</sup>But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

- “open faces.” The word “open” is the Greek word *anakalupto*, which means *to unveil, to uncover, or to disclose*. However, the Greek tense doesn't refer to a one-time unveiling, but to a *veil that, once lifted, remains lifted forever*.
- We must be willing to permanently remove the veil from our eyes and to take an honest look in the mirror in order to truthfully acknowledge the condition of our present stage.
- A truthful recognition of the facts is part of the process that removes the veil from our eyes so the Lord can correct us, change us, transform us, and prepare us to move upward into the next glorious phase for our lives. Paul wrote: we are “changed” after the veil is removed from us.

The “mirror” is a symbol of the Word of God (James 1:22-25).

- As we look into God's Word and see God's Son, the Spirit transforms us into the very image of God.

The Greek word translated “mirrors” can be interpreted in two different ways:

- It can either mean “to behold oneself in a mirror” or “to reflect as a mirror does.”

As a mirror. All believers can **reflect the glory of the Lord**

Also, as a mirror. All believers can **regard their own shortcomings and grow**.

The word translated *changed* is the same word translated *transfigured* in the accounts of our Lord's transfiguration (Matt. 17; Mark 9).

- **It describes a change on the outside that comes from the inside.** Our English word *metamorphosis* is a transliteration of this Greek word.
- Metamorphosis describes the process that changes an insect from a larva into a pupa and then into a mature insect. **The changes come from within.** (e.g. caterpillars to butterflies or tadpoles to frogs)

- The word “changed” is the Greek word *metamorpho*. It is a compound of the words *meta* and *morphoo*. The word *meta* carries the idea of an *exchange*, while the word *morphoo* is the Greek word for a person’s *outward form*.
- Together, the compound word means *to transfigure or transform one’s appearance*.
- The word *metamorphoo* is never used in the Old Testament, and it appears only 4 times in the NT. It is used in Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:2 to describe the *transfiguration* of Jesus, Romans 12:3 to tell us that we are to be *transformed* by the renewing of our minds, and here in 2 Corinthians 3:18.

Moses *reflected* the glory of God, but you and I may *radiate* the glory of God. When we meditate on God’s Word and in it see God’s Son, then the Spirit transforms us! We become more like the Lord Jesus Christ.

MONDAY MORNING MOMENT: ACTION STEP - “*May I be an active participant in my own rescue*” **Acts 11:23 (KJV)** <sup>23</sup>Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.