



# Survival Under Pressure

By Juanita Coy

## Conformed vs. Transformed

What's the difference? Look at Romans 12.

In this chapter, Paul talks of how to be transformed in a conformed world. To be conformed is to be changed by circumstances. Satan wants us to be unstable, confused, shapeless. He doesn't want us to really know where we stand, because he knows if we do, God will be on our side and we can't fall into Satan's hands.

Take a Chameleon for instance. Have you ever seen one? It changes by its surroundings. There is no way he can be the way he wants. He is controlled, or conformed by others. Many Christians (or so called Christians) are conformed by this world, their friends and society. As long as they are around other Christians, they are O.K. But when they are with friends or on the street they are opposite. They adjust to environmental influences. They are like a Chameleon, changeable anytime. God does not want us to be that way. He has provided a way that we can be a Christian, surviving under all kinds of pressure, standing up as ourselves, and shining in our own way for Him. Satan loves for us to be weak. He takes advantage of every situation he can. Be careful..

Further through the chapter, Paul shows us alternatives to being conformed. Transformality (if there is such a word) can be reached through total commitment to Christ. A surface Christian cannot cope. A part time Christian will not survive under pressure. --And you know we have pressures. Day to day encounters that will strike hard at your soul. We must learn how to survive and grow out of the experience. Paul gives us some ideas, as follows:

Bless them that persecute you, (vs. 14) This one is hard)

Be of the same mind toward one another. (vs. 16)

Fervent in spirit (vs. 11)

Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good. (vs. 21)

Cleave (hold) to that which is good. (vs. 9)

Be kindly affectioned one to another. (vs. 10)

THROUGH IT ALL: Remember that your soul is subject to higher powers. (Chapter 13:1)

### OTHER GOOD ADVICE

The Bible is your counselor to guide you through trials. Look to it for advice.

God is always standing, waiting for you to call upon Him for help.

Sanctification is an important part of a Christians life. Don't leave it out. D. Other Christian friends can show you fellowship and lead you.

Be your own person. Use the Bible to set your belief. Man's doctrine is not always right. It changes, and varies. God's Word will always remain the same. Man can fail. God cannot. Overcome temptation and evil with good. Fill your heart and mind with good things. -Phil. 4:8

Be the true person God wants you to be. There is no one like you. God can use you for one special way He wants to. He wants to use you. But He cannot as long as you drift around. Hold tight to God's anchor. Gal. 5:1. -"Stand fast therefore in the faith wherewith God hath made us free."

These Scriptures will help: Matt. 12:25; James 1:2; 1 Cor. 10:13. 1. Rejoice in Hope (vs. 12)