



Metamorphosis

2 Corinthians 3:11-18

Consider the astounding wonder of the life cycle of a bullfrog. The eggs are laid in water, and eventually tiny tadpoles emerge. The tadpoles grow and develop, being perfectly designed to live totally submerged in water. The tadpole gets oxygen from gills and propels itself through the water with its powerful tail. It is a very odd creature, having a head and tail but nothing else. Slowly the transformation takes place. The tail gradually gets smaller, hind feet start to develop, and later front feet emerge. The amphibian moves towards the shore, loses its tail completely, and can breathe air through fully developed lungs. Soon this frog will be catching hundreds of insects with his long sticky tongue!

We can think of other examples of metamorphosis: an ugly underwater grub changed into a winged dragonfly, or a wormlike, lowly caterpillar transformed into a beautiful butterfly. Yet, these amazing transformations of nature cannot compare to what God does in the miracle of regeneration. A lost, depraved soul is instantly transformed into a new creature with a new heart and new desires. By God's grace, a wretched sinner becomes a saint, a child of the King and a citizen of Heaven. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature [creation], old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).

This is "the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" (Eph. 4:24). Delivered from the miry pit, he is now established on the Rock with a new song in his mouth and with many witnessing the transformation (Psalm 40:1-3). Moreover, this transformation may continue on a daily basis: "Beholding as in a glass [mirror] the glory of the Lord, [we] are changed into the same image from glory to glory" (2 Cor. 3:18). See also Romans 12:2.

Praise God for a changed and changing life!

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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