

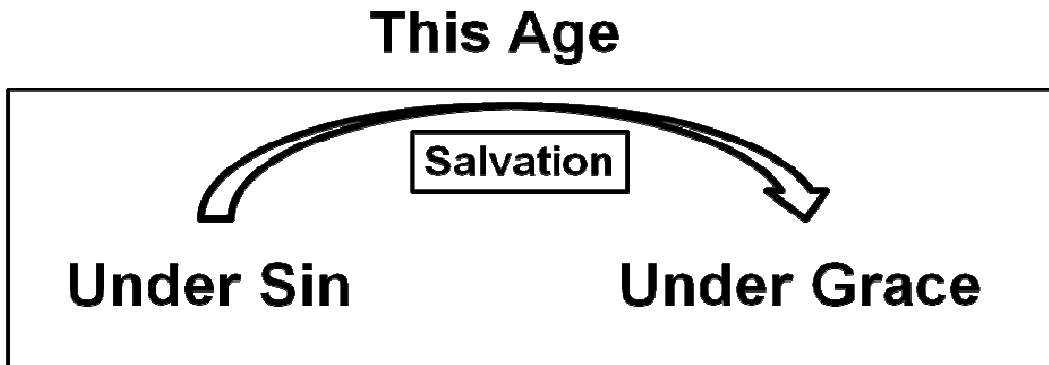
**Belonging to Jesus: “How Should We Live?”
Romans 12:1-2**

Romans 12:1-2

- (1) “Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.
- (2) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

1. **Embrace** _____.
(Romans 12:2; Matthew 12:32; 13:39-40; Ephesians 1:21; Hebrews 6:5)

This Age ➡ **End of the Age** ➡ **The Age to Come**
(“world”)



2. **Resist** _____.
(Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Philippians 3:21)

“don’t be conformed to this world (age)” **but** **“be transformed by the renewing of your mind”**

Day by Day in the Word

“Day by Day in the Word” is a tool we use to help us in the process of becoming more and more like Jesus and ultimately to bring glory to God. The biblical principle is: The Spirit of God uses the Word of God to bring about Christlikeness.

Monday-Tuesday

- Identify the characteristics of “this age” from the following verses: 1 Corinthians 1:20; 2:6, 8; 3:18; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Galatians 1:4; Ephesians 1:21; 2:2; 1 Timothy 6:17; 2 Timothy 4:10; Titus 2:12. Remember, sometimes the term “age” is translated as “world.”
- We have been transferred from the old realm of sin and death to the new realm of life. What do you learn from the following verses? Romans 5:17, 21; 6:2-6, 14, 17-18, 22; 7:2-6; 8:2, 9.
- If you were to embrace the historical plan of God which moves from this age to the age to come, and you were to embrace the move from the old realm of sin and death to the realm of life, what changes would come about in your thinking? In your actions? Determine one way you can work on that today and begin putting it into practice.

Wednesday-Thursday

- Read Romans 12:1-2 and ask yourself how verse 2 identifies how we are to accomplish verse 1. What does this “world” (“age”) look like concretely for you? Name a couple of areas where you’ve allowed yourself to be conformed to the pattern of this world.
- Identify a couple of ways that you can resist this conformity to the world around you. With the help of a friend, seek to do that this week.

Friday-Saturday

- For review, read Romans 3:21-4:25. What do you find out about justification? Note that it is “apart from the law,” (3:21), “through faith in Christ” (v. 22), for all who believe (v. 22), by grace (v. 24), at a great price to God (vv. 24-25—propitiation, redemption, blood), perfectly just (vv. 25-26), and establishes the law (vv. 27-31).
- What are some simple definitions of “justification” and “sanctification”? How are these two terms distinguished? Note: “justification is an act, not a process. There are no degrees of justification; each believer has the same right standing before God. Also, justification is something God does, not man. No sinner can justify himself before God. Most important, justification does not mean that God make us righteous, but that He declares us righteous. Justification is a legal matter. God puts the righteousness of Christ on our record in the place of our own sinfulness. And nobody can change this record.” Wiersbe, *Be Right*, 45.
- Why is it important to know these key terms? How does this affect how you act on a daily, hourly, and minute-by-minute basis? Share your results with a friend.