

The best is yet to come! I believe that with all my heart. We, as the Body of Christ, are standing on the brink of the greatest event in history that is the coming of the Lord Jesus. The events that are happening all around us speak of His return. Never before have so many prophecies been fulfilled while others can be fulfilled in just a few days time. The Body of Christ is yet to see its finest hour. As the peace crumbles around us, millions are seeking for true answers to their problems. The stage is set and the final act is unfolding. Are you ready?

Just a few weeks ago I was in a wonderful worship service when the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart. He said, "I am pressing people into my image." There is a pressing going on in my life and the lives of many other believers. That pressing or forming is making us into the image of Christ. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians about this forming. Galatians 4:19 says, "My little children, for whom I labor in birth again **until Christ is formed in you,**" The New Living Translation puts it this way, "Oh, my dear children! I feel as if I'm going through labor pains for you again, and they will continue **until Christ is fully developed in your lives.**"

As many of you know, the name "Christ" isn't Jesus' last name. It is His description. When Paul wrote this to the Galatians he was saying that Christ or the anointed one is being formed or developed inside them. We are all in the developing process. That means that we are becoming more and more like Jesus. More of His anointing and His character is being formed in us. That means more of His power is going to be seen on the outside.

It is important to know that this forming is going on inside of us. Some have taught that hard times form believers into the image of Christ. That isn't true. If it were true, the undeveloped countries of the world would be made up of saints. What Paul was saying here is that Christ is formed **in us**. In my years of ministry, I have noticed that true and lasting change comes from the inside. I have noticed that teens will obey their parents until the pressure is off and then they will do what is in their hearts. People put on a religious pretense until they are out of church and then they change back to what is in their hearts. We can change by outward pressure, but when the pressure is off what has it accomplished? The forming that Paul is talking about comes from the inside. It is something that totally depends on us being willing. If you aren't willing for Christ to be formed inside of you, don't worry, He will not be. But if you are, then you are heading towards the greatest time that this world has ever seen! Our hearts, minds, and emotions are being formed into the same heart, mind, and emotions that Jesus had when He walked on this earth. Can you imagine the affect it will have on the world when millions of believers start acting like Jesus? Wow! It is going to bring a revival like we have never seen.

There is one more thing that I want us to realize about this development or forming. We are all going to look alike, not physically, but spiritually. When a person takes on the identity of Christ they will lose their self identity. As we are formed into the image of Christ, we will lose sight of ourselves, our ministries, and our goals and we will take on the image of Christ' goals and Christ's church. Many times people will ask why we aren't seeing revival in America like we do in other countries. One of the reasons is because we are selfish. In order to see the Holy Spirit sweep this nation we will have to be formed into Christ's image and not our own.

I really like whole grain bread and I've noticed that in order for the grains to become a loaf, they all need to be crushed or formed into flour. Each grain losses its identity so the loaf of bread can be formed.

I am excited about what the Spirit of God is doing in our world. It will not be long and we will be experiencing the Glory of God in massive amounts. As I finish this article I want to ask you a question. Are you willing to be formed into the image of Christ?