

Is Seeing Becoming?

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Romans 8:29

The goal of the Immanuel Approach is intimacy with God. The by product is inner healing. This makes it unique. It is an approach to life and an approach to inner healing. Intimacy is experiencing God in an authentic relationship. One of the reasons God sent His Son in the form of a human was that we could know Him as a person. So we can experience Him for Who He really is. It is the work of the Spirit that we can experience Him. He is the One Who conforms us to Jesus' image. The question is, "What does seeing Him have to do with this process?" Is the sheer force of His personality so powerful that we become like Him when we see Him?

Included in this article are: Illustration of Stephen's Martyrdom; Jacob's Spotted Sticks; Image of God; Likeness; Conformed; Transformed.

As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your [likeness](#).
Psalms 17:15

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. 1 Corinthians 13:12

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 by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 John 3:2

Illustration of Stephen's Martyrdom

When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with [their] teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Acts 7:54-60

Stephen sees Jesus and the Father and becomes like Him. No matter that he is being stoned to death. He releases his spirit to God and then forgives them. Sound familiar?

This strange story of Jacob engineering a strong flock of spotted sheep has been a wonder to me and to commentators. Does it illustrate seeing is becoming on some level? Is it true that what you look at is what you become?

Jacob's Spotted Sticks

Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which was in the rods. And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink. So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted. Then Jacob separated the lambs, and made the flocks face toward the streaked and all the brown in the flock of Laban; but he put his own flocks by themselves and did not put them with Laban's flock. And it came to pass, whenever the stronger livestock conceived, that Jacob placed the rods before the eyes of the livestock in the gutters, that they might conceive among the rods. But when the flocks were feeble, he did not put them in; so the feebler were Laban's and the stronger Jacob's. Thus the man became exceedingly prosperous, and had large flocks, female and male servants, and camels and donkeys.

Genesis 30:37-43

Image of God

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our [image](#), according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His *own* image; in the [image of God](#) He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 9:6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the [image of God](#) He made man.

Romans 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the [image](#) of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1 Corinthians 11:7 For a man indeed ought not to cover *his* head, since he is the [image](#) and glory of God; but woman is the glory of man.

1 Corinthians 15:49 And as we have borne the [image](#) of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the [image](#) of the heavenly *Man*.

2 Corinthians 3:18 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 by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 4:4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the [image of God](#), should shine on them.

Colossians 1:15 He is the [image](#) of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the [image](#) of Him who created him.

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express [image](#) of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Hebrews 10:1 For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very [image](#) of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.

Likeness

Ezekiel 1:26 And above the firmament over their heads *was* the [likeness](#) of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the [likeness](#) of the throne *was* a [likeness](#) with the appearance of a man high above it.

Ezekiel 1:28 Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so *was* the appearance of the brightness all around it. This *was* the appearance of the [likeness](#) of the glory of the LORD. So when I saw *it*, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking.

Ezekiel 8:2 Then I looked, and there was a [likeness](#), like the appearance of fire—from the appearance of His waist and downward, fire; and from His waist and upward, like the appearance of brightness, like the color of amber.

Ezekiel 10:1 And I looked, and there in the firmament that was above the head of the cherubim, there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of the [likeness](#) of a throne.

Ezekiel 10:21 Each one had four faces and each one four wings, and the [likeness](#) of the hands of a man *was* under their wings.

Ezekiel 10:22 And the [likeness](#) of their faces *was* the same *as* the faces which I had seen by the River Chebar, their appearance and their persons. They each went straight forward.

Daniel 10:16 And suddenly, *one* having the [likeness](#) of the sons of men touched my lips; then I opened my mouth and spoke, saying to him who stood before me, "My lord, because of the vision my sorrows have overwhelmed me, and I have retained no strength.

Daniel 10:18 Then again, *the one* having the [likeness](#) of a man touched me and strengthened me.

Acts 14:11 Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian *language*, "The gods have come down to us in the [likeness](#) of men!"

Romans 5:14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the [likeness](#) of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

Romans 6:5 For if we have been united together in the [likeness](#) of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the [likeness](#)* of His resurrection.

Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the [likeness](#) of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh.

Philippians 2:7 But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the [likeness](#) of men.

Hebrews 7:15 And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest.

Conformed

Romans 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Philippians 3:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Philippians 3:20-21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Transformed

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2 Corinthians 3:18 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 by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 11:15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Philippians 3:21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

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