



EXCERPT OF SERMON

Sunday 15 May 2022

Title of Sermon : **Different but One.**
Minister : **Dr Bruce Woolard**
Reading : **Psalm 139**

“You have searched me, Lord, and you know me and lead me in the way everlasting”.

You are an original. You are not a duplicate. Your uniqueness manifest itself in your thumbprint and iris of the eye. We are not only different in our facial features we have a soul, a personality that is an original. Our physical body consists of the material produced by our parents. Our progenitors or ancestors provided the proto-chemical and molecules that have manufactured us as products of humanity.

The electric impulse between the mind and brain helps the soul to express itself in and through the body. Often these chemicals play havoc with our emotions giving rise to phobias and fears.

TYPES

We are all so different in our temperament and personalities. Hippocrates, the father of medicine, hypothesised that there are four types of temperaments based on his observations when performing autopsies. Hippocrates is credited for saying “Let your food be medicine, and medicine your food.”

The four types of temperaments sometimes overlap to form a hybrid temperament.

Based on the presence of large quantity of black-bile in some people he concluded that this substance influenced the behaviour of the individual. He called them **MELANCHOLICS**.

Others had large quantity of yellow bile and he labelled them **CHOLERICS**.

Then there were some who contained a large quantity of phlegm built up in the lungs. He called them **PHLEGMATICS**.

And still another type he identified as **SANGUINES** because of the rosy red blood found in their veins.

TENDENCIES

While far too many Christians refer to the diverse temperaments as being the result of being born under certain stars such as Leo, Virgo, Aries, etc. Others have their own peculiar labels for the differences in temperaments. As Christians we should not ascribe to the astrology chart (horoscopes) in our quest to find a label for the variety of people who display similar characteristics. Astrology is pagan and has its roots in Babylon.

MELANCHOLIC

Melancholic people are usually very gifted, but they themselves don't think of themselves as talented. They are inclined to be more introverted, and prefer to be in the background. They are given to pessimism and rather withdrawn.

CHOLERIC

Choleric people are fiery, often sarcastic, extroverts and go-getters, especially when it comes to business and success.

PHLEGMATIC

Phlegmatic people are slow to act. They lack urgency, they procrastinate and are always late. They are usually introverted—anti-social.

SANGUINE

Sanguines are outgoing, bubbly, talkative and always positive about life. They usually make promises with good motives and intentions but fail to deliver on their promises.

TRANSFORMATION

All of us are sinners by nature, we carry the original sin of rebellion in our makeup. Psychologists may help to identify the reasons for idiosyncrasies but seldom provide a solution for the malady.

The Bible speaks of us becoming a whole new creation in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”* Becoming a Christian means a transformation (metamorph) of our temperament. Despite our tendencies to act out our fallen, depraved nature, God's Spirit within us begins to transform us into the image of Christ - **Romans 8:28-29** *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.”*

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This transformation can be likened to the caterpillar who forms a chrysalis and emerges from it's cocoon a butterfly. You and I are transformed through the re-
newing of our mind

2 Corinthians 4:16 - *“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.”*

Like an onion there are many layers to our personality. In Christ alone we find transformation possible.

You should be a better person today than you were last year this time.

Submit yourself to the Lord, spend time reading His Word and you'll experience a different you.

