



## Butterfly Transformation

### EGG

Butterfly lays eggs on plant.

The eggs are very small, the size of a "dot."

Eggs are white in color.

They hatch in 3 – 6 days



### CATERPILLAR

The egg hatches into a caterpillar. It is so small it can hardly be seen.

The caterpillar grows very quickly.

It develops teeth to chew on leaves for food.

It grows 8 pairs of legs and crawls on plants.

It can shed its coat up to 5 times while growing.

Each time it sheds, a new larger skin is waiting underneath.

In 9-14 days it is 2" long and fully grown.

When fully grown it crawls to a safe place and makes a silk mat.

It sheds its coat for the last time. Underneath is a hard casing called a cocoon/chrysalis which envelops the caterpillar.



### COCOON

The skin of the cocoon is soft for one hour then it becomes a hard shell.

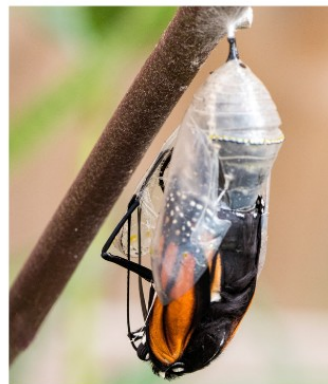
The transformation process begins.

It's mouth changes from chewing teeth to a long straw like tongue for sipping nectar.

Its legs reduce from 8 pairs to 3 pairs.

Wings develop so that it is no longer a crawling creature but one of the most beautiful flying insects.

After 9-14 days the cocoon cracks open and out comes the transformed creature – now a butterfly!



### BUTTERFLY

As it squeezes through the crack, its wings are crumpled and wet.

It clings to the empty cocoon.

Blood starts pumping through its body, and wings begin to enlarge.

Butterfly is vulnerable to predators at this stage.

After one hour its wings are fully dry and it is ready to fly.

The butterfly uses its straw like tongue to sip nectar.

It uses its wings to fly from flower to flower, pollinating.

It is ready to mate and lay new eggs.





## EGG

God created man and woman (Adam and Eve) in His image to multiply His image and glory in the world.

**God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them, male and female He created them. God said to them, be fruitful and multiply. Genesis 1:27-28; 2:7**

He created them with a physical body, breathing His Spirit in them, giving them eternal life, freedom, and joy in relationship with Him.

He gave them a freewill to choose to love, trust, and obey Him.  
**Genesis 2:15-17**

But Adam and Eve disobeyed God (sin) by believing His enemy, Satan. The result was spiritual death and separation from God.  
**Genesis 3:1-7**

Since then, we are all born as a small egg in our mother's womb. Instead of being born in freedom like butterflies, we are born in bondage and sin, crawling like caterpillars. Our sin leads to death. **Romans 5:12**

Even so:

- God loves us **Jeremiah 31:3**
- He knows every day of our life.  
**Psalms 139:13-16**
- He knows us by name. **Isaiah 43:1**
- He has good plans for us. My thoughts for you are for peace, and not evil, to give you a future and a hope. **Jeremiah 29:11**
- He loves us unconditionally.  
**Jeremiah 31:3**

## CATERPILLAR

Like the caterpillar, our human body grows through different stages of life. We focus on our physical needs but we cannot experience spiritual freedom, purpose or eternal life by fulfilling our physical needs.

**Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 15:50**

Sin keeps us living like caterpillars. Separated from God we are hopeless, broken, sad, defeated, ashamed, oppressed, guilty and in despair, we have no purpose and we are dying.

**All have sinned and fall short of God's glory. Romans 3:23**

God has plans for us to be transformed like beautiful butterflies. But like Adam and Eve, Satan tempts and deceives us. He wants to keep us from relationship with God, living in bondage, fear and death.

**The thief (Satan) comes to kill steal and destroy John 10:10a**

But God loves us and wants to restore our relationship with Him, to give us eternal life, and identity and purpose as His child.

**But I have come to give you life in abundance. John 10:10b**

## COCOON

The caterpillar has to go through a transformation (complete change) before it can be a butterfly. It stops eating and goes to sleep in a cocoon.

Like the caterpillar, we cannot change ourselves or make ourselves more spiritual. We have to stop trying to change things ourselves and let God change us. Our spiritual transformation from death to life is a cocoon experience.

God sent His Son Jesus, to pay for the sin and bondage that keeps us living like caterpillars. Jesus died on the cross so that we could receive God's forgiveness, freedom and eternal life.

**But God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8**

To receive God's gift we must surrender to Him by confessing our sin, asking His forgiveness for our disobedience, and believe that Jesus' death on the cross has paid for our sin. **John 3:16-17**

God's Spirit now comes to live in us giving us eternal life. We become God's child. He no longer sees our sin. He sees Jesus blood making us righteous. His Spirit transforms us into God's image of beauty which is Jesus living in us. **John 1:12-13; John 3:5-7; John 3:16-17; Romans 6:4-7; 2 Corinthians 3:16, 2 Corinthians 5:15; Ezekiel 36:26-27**

## BUTTERFLY

Jesus rose from the dead. He came out of the tomb and is now seated in heaven as our Savior and King. The same power that rose Jesus from the dead brings us out of our cocoon from death to everlasting life. We begin a new life. When our physical body dies, our spirit will live with God in heaven forever.

**If anyone is in Christ he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have been made new. 2 Corinthians 5:17**

Our past is forgiven. God's Holy Spirit in us begins to free us from the pain and bondage we lived with as caterpillars. He helps us learn to live like butterflies with love, hope, freedom and joy.

Butterflies drink nectar from flowers. The bible is God's nectar. We need it every day to help us grow spiritually, to understand who God is, who we are, and God's purpose for us.

God's Spirit empowers us to fly, spreading the love and fragrance of Jesus and multiplying His kingdom, sharing His truth with others who are still living like caterpillars.

**1 Corinthians 15:44 2 Corinthians 2:14-16 2 Corinthians 3:17; 5:17; Ephesians 3:20; 2 Peter 1:3-4, Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 28:18-20**