

## The Butterfly - A Symbol of New Life

The change from a larva, a worm like creature, to a lifeless looking chrysalis, to the emergence of a magnificent, winged butterfly has often been used as a symbol of the resurrection.

The butterfly begins as a tiny egg. From the egg, a larva emerges. The larva eats and grows and eventually forms a chrysalis. For days, as it grows, it remains quiet inside a delicate shell. Then, it emerges as a fully developed butterfly. After pumping fluid into its wings, that amazingly different looking insect takes flight.

We are earthbound creatures with limited views of what the future might bring. Christ promises us a new body, which will not know the limitations we have now. The butterfly symbolizes this change from an earthbound creature into a new form.

### Hope

Inside a tiny egg  
A new life takes its form.  
It grows and changes day by day,  
In sunbeams bright and warm.

A larva breaks  
The fragile shell  
And wriggles forth to crawl about,  
A fragrant world to smell.

The larva eats  
And daily grows.  
It sheds its skin and eats again.  
You wonder what it knows.

Then when the time  
Is right to change  
And wait for better things to come  
It leaves its well-known range.

A time of waiting,  
Growing more and more,  
Will change this earthbound larva  
From what it was before.

Inside a chrysalis  
The earthbound creature lies,  
Waiting for its growing wings  
To take it to the skies.

And then a new day comes  
When warmth and radiant light  
Bring forth a lovely creature  
That's new and whole and bright.

Its life is different.  
With wings it soars up high.  
No longer limited to earth,  
The butterfly takes to the sky.

In Christ there's hope  
For life that's bright and new.  
Our bodies too will change  
When earthbound days are through.