

A CHRISTIAN & HIS THOUGHTS

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Text: Philippians 2:5

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:" (Philippians 2:5)

INTRODUCTION

- a) Led by the Spirit is a choice of christian's heart
 - Lk 4:1 Jesus being full of the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit into the wilderness
 * Mt 4:1 Jesus led up of the Spirit
 * Mk 1:12 Spirit drives Jesus into the wilderness
- b) Set your motivations, intents, & choices in God
 * Word of God is God's written commands
- c) Your mouth speaks what your heart has hidden inside
 * your thoughts & intents important

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he..." (Proverbs 23:7a)

"O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." (Matthew 12:34)

Quote: "Thoughts repeated become thoughts ingrained."

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." (Colossians 3:1-2)

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Romans 8:1)

"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." (Genesis 6:5) Noah's generation

1. THE Picture (v. 5-8)

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8)

A. His humility (v. 6-7)

HIS ESSENCE

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1) Deity: Godhead

"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." (1 John 5:7)

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." (Colossians 2:9)

HIS HUMILITY

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

B. His obedience (v. 8)

"Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." (Luke 22:42)

"And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." (Matthew 26:39)

Quote: "Holiness does not consist in mystic speculations, enthusiastic fervours, or uncommanded austerities; it consists in thinking as God thinks, and willing as God wills."

—Jerry Bridges

2. THE Process (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

A. Understand the battle

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" (2 Corinthians 10:3-5) spiritual warfare

- When Jesus lived on earth under Roman Empire under reign of Tiberius Caesar, he did not lead armies to set up an earthly kingdom

Jesus came to minister (serve)

in the Garden of Gethsemane

Jesus' temptation in the wilderness by Satan was the first spiritual warfare in his earthly life

IT IS NOT PHYSICAL WARFARE

IT IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:10-12)

B. Utilize Our weapon (v. 4b-5)

Bible compared to sword

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:" (Ephesians 6:17)

A MIGHTY WEAPON

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12)

Quote: "As long as the devil has strongholds of wrong and sinful thought, we cannot be led by the Holy Spirit."

"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." (James 4:6-7)

A PROTECTING WEAPON

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Psalm 119:11)

Quote: "God's Word will replace the bad thoughts with the right thoughts. It will help you assess what thoughts need to be brought into submission to Jesus Christ."

- 2 Cor 10:4-5

- spiritual warfare involves making your heart full of word of God
- * word of God is spiritual weapon
- * God's words throws down imaginations
- * every powerful thing raised high against God's knowledge
- * brings every thought into captivity to obeying Christ

C. Undertake a Spiritual approach

(Rom 7:25
with my
mind I
serve the
law of
God

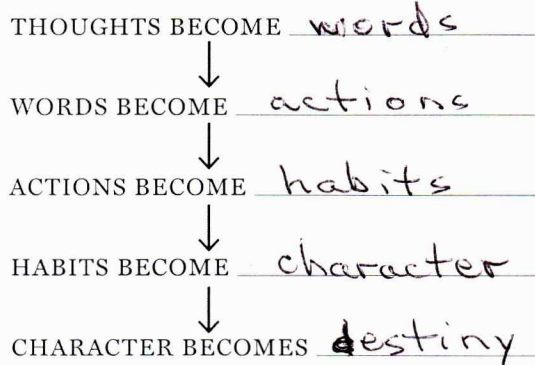
4 STEPS TO A CHRISTIAN MINDSET

- Surrender Your Mind to God
"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."
(Romans 7:18)
"I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin." (Romans 7:25)
- Substitute Wrong Thoughts with Scripture Thoughts
"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8)
- Serve the Lord
"Commit thy works unto the LORD, And thy thoughts shall be established." (Proverbs 16:3)
- Saturate Your Mind with Right Thinking
"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; But his heart is not with thee."
(Proverbs 23:7)

Four
steps

Christian
life is
thinking
life

"Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 1:13)



- Destiny of Christian in future at end of life is...
eternal life with Jesus in heaven

3. THE Product (Romans 12:2)

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

A. A renewed Mind (v. 1-2)

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." (Colossians 2:8)

B. A righteous Mind (v. 1b)

HOLY LIVING

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;" (1 Peter 2:11)

REASONABLE SERVING

"For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: 15 And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)

C. A restful Mind

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on thee: Because he trusteth in thee." (Isaiah 26:3)

"But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace." (James 3:17-18)

evil
human
lusts

- Christian life is not of "do's"
and "don'ts"
* rather of "will do's" verses
"want's" instead of needs