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# The Mind of Christ

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**"For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he might instruct Him? But WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST" (I Corinthians 2:16).**

**"For God has not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a SOUND MIND" (II Timothy 1:7).**

**"LET THIS MIND BE IN YOU, WHICH WAS ALSO IN CHRIST JESUS" (Philippians 2:5).**

**T**HANK God there is no guessing, surmising, or supposition about God's eternal facts. Such realities prompted Paul to state under the pen of inspiration, "I know," "I believe," and "I am persuaded." It is God's Word that motivates our convictions, our firmness, causing us to be steadfast, unmovable, and positive in what we believe. Our actions reflect such possession. "That the communication of your faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus" (Philemon 1:6) (I Corinthians 2: 10).

## The Real Battle

In that perfect garden Adam and Eve were solicited through their mind. They heard the lies of Satan and accepted them. Everything Satan says is a lie (John 8:44). He questioned the statement of God. He questioned God's announced judgment and conveyed the lie that God was withholding a higher position for this first couple on the earth. Every mortal being has inherited the same depraved mind that Adam possessed as the result of His disobedience (Genesis 3:17; Romans 5:12,18,19). They are dead to God and His righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 2:1). The command in Ephesians 4:23 states, "And be renewed in the spirit of your MIND." This is accomplished in regeneration, when we are born-again (John 3). Independent of such action with us, our mind is the means of Satan's attack and often his stronghold. All solicitation for evil comes through our mind. "For as He THINKS in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7).

## The Sinful Mind

The Bible is very clear as to the activity of the mind that has not been made new by the Holy Spirit. God classifies it as reprobate, fleshly, carnal, and blind.

- "God gave them over to a reprobate mind" (Romans 1:28)
- "Carnal mind - enmity" (Romans 8:7)
- "Vanity of their mind" (Ephesians 4: 17)
- "Mind and conscience is defiled" (Titus 1:15)  
"Men of corrupt minds" (1Timothy 6:5)
- "Enemies in your mind" (Colossians 1:2 I)
- "Mind earthly things" (Philippians 3:19)
- "Things of the flesh" (Romans 8:5)

- "Minds blinded" (II Corinthians 3: 14)
- "Blinded the minds" (II Corinthians 4:4)
- "Carnally minded" - end - death (Romans 8:6)

The terms "mind" and "heart" are used in the Bible synonymously (Proverbs 23:7). The mind is a very important word in God's vocabulary. Our thoughts determine the real quality of our lives and determine our action. We entertain it all in our mind before acting it out. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal to us the depth and extent of our mental uncleanness. One glimpse through the Word of God concerning the unsaved mind and we see the corruption that proceeds from an unclean source.

## What Is in Your Mind?

This we have control over. Tell me what you think about, and I can tell you the condition of your character. Here is one reason for continued daily Bible reading and prayer. Are you, like most Americans, energized by the nudeness and lewdness of the Hollywood entertainment? List the TV programs you listen to. What about the Internet? How many lewd Hollywood movies are you watching On TV? Are you supporting Hollywood by the movies you pay to attend? What magazines are reading? What are you looking at and feeding on? What crowd are you keeping company with? Do you laugh and enjoy the sexy jokes On TV and with the crowd? You surely do not believe yourself to be a Christian and feed upon pornography? Looking at the filth indicates your hunger; righteousness means nothing to you. Young man, you are to see the nakedness of one woman during your entire lifetime and she is your wife. (J can easily back this statement with scripture.)

Philippians 4:8 tells you what to think about. In repentance, you turn from all sinful thoughts. The missionaries tell me how the heathen, who have never heard of Christ, are a sex-oriented society. The vast majority of people in America today have already turned in this direction. The sacredness and permanence of marriage is gone in this country, even in Christian circles. (The children suffer its consequences for a lifetime.)

## The Solution to a Depraved Mind

The old mind is the most prominent indication of man's degeneration. This corrupt mind cannot be changed by any effort of his own. Our hope of a new mind rests in the Cross of

Jesus Christ. Let's turn to Calvary and see our sins nailed there. When we accept Christ's death as our OWN deserved death, by identification with Him, we die to sin. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? GOD FORBID. HOW SHALL WE, THAT ARE DEAD TO SIN, live any longer therein? Knowing this, that our old man is crucified (declared dead) with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that here after we should not serve sin" (Romans 6:1, 2, 6). (No toleration of sin is here.) "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world crucified (dead) to me, and I (also dead) to the world" (Galatians 6:14). (This was my father's lifetime verse.)

This position is a fact we rest upon, having repented of our sins and cried out to Christ to save us by His resurrection power to make us a new creature. Hear it loud and clear: "Likewise reckon you also yourselves TO BE DEAD indeed TO SIN, BUT ALIVE TO GOD through Jesus Christ our Lord. LET NOT SIN THEREFORE REIGN IN YOUR MORTAL BODY, that you should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield you your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin; but yield yourselves to God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. FOR SIN SHALL NOT HAVE DOMINION OVER YOU; for you are not under the law, but under grace" (Romans 6:11-14). Don't miss this same truth in Romans 12:1, 2.

What claptrap have you allowed to enter and lodge in your mind? Be submissive to the mind of Christ. Let it dwell within you (Philippians 2:5). Get back to Calvary and reckon upon your death to sin, that Christ died to rid you of. One of today's big mistakes in theology is that Christ died to take us to heaven. He died to *rid us of our sins*, that He might take possession of us (Romans 5:6, 8). Heaven is far down the road. Many relax with heaven as their final abode, independent of any motivation to fulfill God's plan and purpose today and now. There is a world around us heading for hell. God has instructed us to get the gospel to them. What good is our message if our life-style does not match it?

### The New Mind

First Corinthians 2:16, referring to Christians, states that "We have the mind of Christ." Note that it is not the old man made over, for we have the thinking ability of Christ, the holy Son of God. For us humans, it means a new mental process with the old thought circuits removed, and in their place a mental process under control of Jesus Christ. What a change! The new mind of Christ demands nourishment. "Thy words were found and I did eat them; and Your word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart" (Jeremiah 15:16). "You will keep him in perfect peace, who's MIND IS STAYED ON YOU, because he trusts in you. Trust you in the Lord for ever; for in the Lord

Jehovah is everlasting strength" (Isaiah 26:3, 4). Here again is the personal control of your mind. We're told in Philippians 4:8 what to think about. You can do it; otherwise no such direction would be given by God. Christ alone is our life and sustenance. Our strength comes from His Word, the Bible.

There must be a constant reckoning on the deliverance wrought for us at Calvary, from our own fleshly thoughts and dwelling on the thoughts of Christ. He is the living head of the new generation or the new man. We will not compromise with the old man, but will resist and repudiate his thoughts and imaginations immediately. Shelter is taken in the cross of Jesus Christ where we died to evil thoughts. Let us thank God that sin, fear, care, and worry has been dealt with on the cross and displaced, so that we are now emancipated and set free from the sin of the past. "Great peace have they which love Thy law. And nothing shall offend them" (Psalm 119:165). Christ still lives to share His mind with us. Remember the maniac was "clothed and in his RIGHT MIND."

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8, 9). Yet in grace He condescends to communicate with us through His Word.

Friend of mine, which is it? The old mind or the new? The condition of your mind reveals whether you are a son of God or a child of the devil. The Bible plainly states that the pure in heart (and mind) will see God (Matthew 5:8). We are commanded to set our affections on things above, not on the earth. We are not to love this world. If we do, there is no love of God within us (1John 2:15, 16). His love is shed abroad in our heart by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). Never will a holy God have contact with an unrepentant, unclean heart and mind. Christ's power is not diminished in our day. He can and will make you a new creature. He will clean up your mind and heart and dwell in both. Find a place of prayer and talk to Him about your sin. Believe Him to cleanse your heart and mind and live within you (Romans 10:13).

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