

The power of thoughts

December 6, 2020

Today our subject is on the power of thoughts, right or wrong thinking. Thoughts, concepts, words, are not tangible. They are spirit. Thoughts, beliefs, concepts, words, have a spiritual force in them, Therefore, What we believe or think, is very important. They take us somewhere. They effect our destiny, - even our eternity. Everyone in hell is there because of something they were thinking. Something they were believing - such as:

Oh, There is no God; We all evolved. There is no life after death. There is no hereafter. It does not matter what religion you have, we're all the same. I'm a good person, My good works outweigh my bad works. Therefore, I'm going to heaven. I don't need religion, I have my own views. God is Love, he will excuse these affairs I'm having.... Everyone in hell is there because of something wrong they were thinking.

Words, beliefs, have a tremendous spiritual power in them. And they take us somewhere. To heaven, or to hell. Jesus said, it is the truth that will set you free. I am the truth, the way. No man comes to the Father except through me.

Proverbs 23:7 tells us that as a man thinks in his heart, so is he. What you think, what you believe, takes you somewhere. Words are powerful. The universe, and everything was created by words. God spoke, and it happened. Words have a great spiritual force in them. Jesus said - the words that I speak unto you are Spirit and life. Joh 6:63* the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

In Isaiah 55:8, God says, your thoughts are not my thoughts,
And therefore, neither are your ways, my ways.
When we think wrong, we act wrong.
Often we do not see things the way God sees them.

Romans 12:2 tells us, that we are transformed by a changed mind.
Ro 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.

We must not be conformed to the thinking of this world.
Satan, the prince of this world, controls the thinking of this world.
Many of our problems are because of wrong thinking.
We do not see things as God sees them.
So, as God renews and changes our minds, we will be transformed.
Romans 12:2 is a very key verse.

Our minds need to be changed: Our thinking needs to be changed:
About how we see ourselves
About how we see others
About how we view life
And how we view God, and how we view eternal things.

Without eternal vision people live carelessly. Proverbs 29:18:
Where there is no vision, the people perish: [or cast off all restraint].

Often the purpose of a trial is to help us see things differently.
When we begin to see things properly, we are changed, transformed.
We see this in the trial of Job. Job 42:1-6. Job was a very good man, but...
There were certain things in the life of Job that needed to change.
At the end of this trial, he declared, Lord, I've heard you with my ears,
But now my eyes see you. I repent in dust and ashes.
"I have said and thought some things that were very wrong. I repent."

Remember, what we believe and what we think is very important because:

- An idea causes us to live a certain way, it develops a lifestyle.
- It produces fruit in our life - the fruit of the spirit, or works of the flesh.
- A belief takes us somewhere - into God's purposes, or away from them.
- What we think and believe will affect our destiny, our eternity.

Words are very important, they are spirit, and they affect our spirit.

There is great power in the tongue...the power of life and death.

Pr 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. Whatever we listen to bears fruit, good or bad.

Words, shape our life and character, and thinking. John 15:3 -

Jesus said, now you are clean through the words I've spoken to you.

The words of the Lord can make us clean, and produce wisdom and peace.

But wrong words can poison our spirit, and take us away from God.

Paul said in 2 Timothy 2:17 - their word eats like (gangrene, a raw sore).

It's very important who we Listen to. How did sin begin?

The serpent began to talk to Eve. Sin began with subtle words.

Satan ruined Eve, and the human race, with his words, his reasonings.

A serpent's greatest power is in his mouth.

Satan's greatest power is his subtle deceptive words.

One mouth started World War II, Adolf Hitler stirred up a whole nation.

That led to war in Europe, and to a world war. (words are spirit).

One mouth started a rebellion in heaven. One third of heaven joined in.

One spark can burn down a whole forest.

Before anyone makes a major decision, they have thought about it first.

Sin begins in the heart, and in the thoughts, then it becomes an act.

As we have said, people act wrong when they think wrong.

All the nations of the world act the way they do, because of a mentality.

The gospel is light - it destroys dark spiritual powers that blind people.

May the Lord deliver us from every spirit that controls our mind.

I want to keep repeating Isaiah 55:8 - your thoughts are not my thoughts, Therefore neither are your ways my ways says the Lord.

Romans 12:2 - we are transformed by the renewing of our mind.

When we think wrong we will act wrong.

Hosea 4:6 tells us - My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:

But the truth will set us free. We need more knowledge and truth.

Therefore we must study, rightly able to divide the word of truth.

We must perfectly balance every truth.

Much Error is because of over-emphasizing a truth,

And not balancing it with other truths.

We are told the Lord's mercy endures forever. But, condition must be met.

Ps 103:17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, Mercy is for those who revere and obey Him.

To Moses He said: Ex 33:19 ...I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

2 Samuel 7:15 tells is that God removed his mercy from King Saul.

The Lord said to David, concerning his son Solomon:

“... my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee.”

PROBLEMS WITH OUR NATURAL MIND

Here are some problems we have with our natural mind:

Imaginations - people suffer much from things they imagine, fears about what will happen in the future; fears of what people are saying or thinking; Jacob was depressed for years - he thought his son Joseph was dead. Joseph was not dead, he was in Egypt being prepared to be a world ruler. Imaginations invite the enemy to come in and torment us.

**Trying to figure everything out - when is this going to happen, where, how?
How is God going to bring this to pass? Why did this happen?
Remember, God's ways and his thoughts are so much higher than ours.
We need to entrust our future, our feelings, and our puzzles to God.
Proverbs 3:5-6 is the key: trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And do not depend on your own understanding (your own mind).
Acknowledge him in all your ways and he will direct our paths.
If we do this, we will have peace.**

**Mental blindness - we can be very closed in certain areas of our life.
The Lord had to rebuke James and John one day, in Luke 9:54-55.
They wanted to call down fire from heaven, on those who rejected Christ:
"But [Jesus] turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner
of spirit ye are of."**

**Jesus was admonishing two very good disciples, saying:
"You do not realize what spirit (what mentality) you are of."
We could be very open in many areas, but very closed in other areas.
Let's ask God to give us an open and pliable, teachable spirit.**

**Meditating on disagreeable things - past failures that make us feel guilty,
Things people did to hurt us, Violent revengeful thoughts...
Wrong medications affect our body. It stimulates our nervous system.
We may need to reverse some of our unsavory thoughts.
We can actually poison our spirit, soul, and body by wrong meditations.
We must refuse to meditate on evil. Phi 4:8 tells us what to meditate upon.
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely, good report, Think on these things.
God's peace (that surpasses knowledge) shall guard your heart and mind.
1 Pe. 1:13 - gird up the loins of your mind. Tighten up your loose thoughts.
We have the power to turn on or turn off thoughts, by Gods grace.
Wrong thoughts can affect our physical and spiritual health.**

A haughty mind - is to think lofty thoughts about oneself. Self-importance. We all need a healthy sense of self-worth. But not pride / arrogance. Rom.12:3 warns against thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought ... “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.”

**A haughty mind opens the door to fantasy, delusion, and deception.
1 Peter 5:5 exhorts us to be clothed with humility.**

1Pe 5:5* Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

Pray that God would clothe us with his garment of humility.

Jesus was the most humble man that ever lived.

He said, I am meek and humble, Learn this from me.

Mt 11:29* Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

People who are meek and humble, have peace.

But people who are proud are easily offended and tormented.

Living in the past - always thinking about the past, the good or bad times.

Eccles. 7:10, “Say not, What is the cause that the former days were better than these? for you do not enquire wisely concerning this.”

Let's not live in the past. God has a very bright future for us.

Yes we are going through trials now, but let's look ahead.

Vision never looks back, but looks ahead.

We need great expectation for what God is going to do, that's future ...

We need to be seeking God for a fresh touch today, a new experience.

Paul tells us in Philippians 3:13-14 - "... forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Joseph realized that all the past injustices, were meant to bless him. He did not live in the past. Past injustices were used to exalt him. Why did the Israelites fail in the wilderness? They kept looking back. Oh, we had good food to eat back in Egypt. Their eyes should have been on the land of promise, the future.

Here is what I often say: - I have a very bright future.

Revival is coming. The greatest revival the world has ever seen. Yes there is tribulation also coming.

But very soon, the Lord Jesus Christ is coming.

I am going to have a brand-new body. No aches or pains or weakness. I'm going to see the Lord, and rule and reign with Christ for 1000 years. There is going to be peace on earth.

Satan and all evil spirits will be bound. There will be no more wars.

We are going to have a very happy eternity.

There is going to be a new heaven and a new earth.

And there will be perfect joy and peace, for eternity.

Never mind the things of the past, good or bad.

We are not living in the past.

God has something far better for us than anything in the past.

Let's pray that God will control our thoughts, and renew our minds.

We are transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Lord give me a brand-new mind, let me see things the way you see them.

Amen.

