

HOW TO DEVELOP AND POSSESS A GODLY - HEALTHY MIND

- I. How Do The Holy Scriptures Describe The Mind?
- II. How Does The Mind Function? Why Do We Think The Way We Do?
- III. How Do Our Minds Become Evil And Corrupt?
- IV. How Do We Develop And Possess A GODly – Healthy Mind?

I. How Do The Holy Scriptures Describe The Mind?

In the English Bible, the word “*mind*” or its variations such as “*minded*” and “*mindful*” appear 96 times...in 34 different Books...both in the Old and New Testaments.

“*heart*” – Hundreds of times...in many different Books...in the Old and New Testaments.

“*soul*” – Hundreds of times (in this context)...in many different Books...in the Old and New Testaments.

“*imagination*” – 30 times...in the Old and New Testaments.

“*conscience*” – 30 times (in this context)...only in the New Testament.

“*thoughts*” or “*think*” – 10 times...in the Old and New Testaments.

“mind” (“minded”/ “mindful)

Hebrew: yetser = imagination; thought

“THOU will keep him in complete peace, whose mind (yester) is stayed on THEE, because he trusts in THEE.” Isaiah 26:3

Hebrew: leb / lebab = heart; mind

“This I recall to my mind (leb), therefore have I hope.” Lamentations 3:21

Greek: nous = “The seat (or source) of reflection, understanding, perception, judgement, decision making, and even feelings.” W.E. Vine

“Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, but even their mind (nous) and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know GOD, but in works they deny HIM, being abominable, disobedient, and unto every good work, reprobate.”
Titus 1:15-16

“heart”

Hebrew: leb / lebab = mind

Hebrew: iebab = mind

“...the heart (iebab) of the sons of men is full of evil, and madness is in their heart (iebab) while they live, and after that they go to the dead.”
Ecclesiastes 9:3b

Hebrew: nephesh = “The seat (or source) of feeling, affections, intellect, understanding, and insight.” William Wilson
Also means soul; breath

“For as he thinks in his heart (nephesh), so is he...” Proverbs 23:7a

So it really is true... “We are what we think.”

This is significant. For when we think of “*heart*”, we think of breathing and life.

The significant application here is...

THE WAY WE THINK IS THE WAY WE LIVE!

THE WAY WE THINK IS WHO WE ARE!

The word “*soul*” in Holy Scripture (in the context we are looking at in this Series) includes the mind, the will and the emotions.

Greek: kardia = “The word came to stand for man’s entire mental and moral activity, both the rational and emotional elements. In other words, the (word) “heart” is used figuratively for the hidden springs of the personal life. As to its usage in The New Testament, it denotes...

1.) The seat (or source) of moral nature and spiritual life; 2.) The seat of grief, joy, desires, the affections, the perceptions, the thoughts, the understanding, the reasoning powers, the imagination, conscience, the intentions, purpose, the will and faith.” W.E. Vine

J. Laidlaw states: “The heart, as lying deep within, contains the hidden man (I Peter 3:4), the real man. It represents the true character, but conceals it.”

“A good man out of the good treasure of the heart (kardia) brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.” Matthew 12:35

“imagination” (“imagine”)

Hebrew: sheriruth = hardness; stubbornness

“And The LORD says, Because they have forsaken MY Law which I set before them, and have not obeyed MY voice, neither walked therein, But have walked after the imagination (sheriruth) of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them.” Jeremiah 23:16-17

Hebrew: chashab = to think; to devise; to reckon

“And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor, and let none of you imagine (chashab) evil against his brother in your heart.” Zechariah 7:10

Greek: logismos; dialogismos = reasoning; thoughts

“Casting down imagination (logismos), and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of GOD, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of CHRIST.” II Corinthians 10:5

“conscience”

Greek: suneidesis = “A knowing with oneself; The witness borne to one’s conduct by conscience; That faculty by which we apprehend the will of GOD, as that which is designed to govern our lives.” Vine

THE WAY WE THINK IS WHO WE ARE!

THE WAY WE THINK IS THE WAY WE LIVE!

“Holding faith, and a good conscience (suneidesis), which some having put away concerning the faith, have made shipwreck.” I Timothy 1:19

“thought” (“think”)

Hebrew: machashebeth = to meditate; to purpose; to devise; to plan

“The thoughts (machashebeth) of the righteous are right...”
Proverbs 12:5a

*“The thoughts (machashebeth) of the wicked are an abomination to **THE LORD...**”* Proverbs 15:26a

Greek: dialogismos (same Greek word we learned earlier is translated “*imagination*”) = reasoning

“For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts (dialogismos), murders, thefts, adulteries, fornications, false witness, blasphemies.” Matthew 15:19

“Mind”

“Heart”

“Soul”

“Imaginations”

“Conscience”

“Thoughts”

II. How Does The Mind Function? Why Do We Think The Way We Do?

- **How our mind, and thus our thinking, becomes evil & corrupt...
and the destructive consequences of that way of reasoning**

and

- **How our mind, and thus our thinking, becomes GODly & righteous...
and the life-giving consequences of that way of reasoning**

“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin, but yield yourselves unto GOD, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto GOD.”

Romans 6:13

Next to our spirit, our mind is the most significant “*member*” of our being!

- * Deciding what to wear that day**
- * Deciding what to eat for breakfast**
- * Thinking about our job, school, or a special meeting**
- * Thinking about pleasant memories from the day before**
- * Thinking about unpleasant memories from the day before**
- * In fact, everything we see, hear, taste, smell and feel, will be “processed” through our mind...our thinking...and our reasoning!**
- * Even while we sleep, our mind can be active through our dreams**

Application: Based on this reality, we can acknowledge that what we spend our time and energy thinking about...is very, very important!

What shapes and determines the way we think and reason today... (and thus the way we live our lives), at this point and time of our lives, no matter how old we are?

- 1.) Our life history...both righteous and wicked
- 2.) Our life experiences...both righteous and wicked
- 3.) Our life choices...both righteous and wicked

1.) Our life history...both righteous and wicked

This factor would begin with our genealogy

“I THE LORD THY GOD am a jealous GOD, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate ME, and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love ME and keep MY Commandments.” Deuteronomy 5:9b-10

- Illustration of a physical tendency or habit...

A parent was a drunkard – This tendency or habit can be passed on through the physical genes to their children.

- Illustration of a spiritual tendency or habit...

John The Baptist and his parents

“And it came to pass, that, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby (John The Baptist) leaped in her womb...”

Luke 1:41

“For he (John The Baptist) shall be great in the sight of THE LORD... and shall be filled with THE HOLY SPIRIT, even from his mother’s womb.” Luke 1:15

***“And they were both righteous before GOD, walking in all of The Commandments and Ordinances of THE LORD blameless.”
Luke 1:6***

- **Illustration of a mental (that is, a way of thinking) tendency or habit...**

A parent or a grandparent or a great-grandparent who struggled with depression, passing on to their descendants this way of thinking.

“Train up a child (literally “to saturate and permeate with Truth and instruction at an early age), in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

2.) Our life experiences...both righteous and wicked

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that he shall also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

This factor is also based on the truth that we never forget anything!

This would include the five physical senses...

***What we have seen *What we have heard *What we have tasted**

***What we have touched *What we have smelled**

Illustration #1: Drug abuse; alcohol consumption; using tobacco; viewing pornography; viewing “soap operas”; listening to evil music; hearing foul language; involvement in demonic activities & witchcraft

Illustration #2: Bible reading; memorizing Holy Scripture; meditation on Holy Scripture; eating healthy foods; listening to GODly music; reading righteous books

This would also include the emotional and spiritual aspects of our life experiences, such as...

Joys; sorrows; disappointments; hurts; pleasant relationships; unpleasant relationships; successes; failures; being “born-again”

Probably the two most significant...

LOVE WE WERE SHOWN & LOVE WE WERE NOT SHOWN

“There are emotions tied to every memory, whether righteous or wicked.”

Bill Gothard

“For as (a man) thinks in his heart, so is he...” Proverbs 23:7a

Illustration #1: If we were raised in an environment where there was unconditional love, acceptance, nurturing, stability and kindness...these righteous virtues would have gone a long way to forming and shaping how we think and reason today!

Illustration #2: If we were raised in an environment where there was always hate, rejection, abuse, instability and anger... these wicked virtues would have gone a long way to forming and shaping how we think and reason today!

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

3.) Our life choices...both righteous and wicked

This factor is based on what we are choosing to allow into our minds in the present. Choices that are both righteous and wicked.

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

**THE WAY WE THINK AND REASON...
LEADS TO THE WAY WE FEEL!**

**THE WAY WE FEEL...
LEADS TO THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES!**

“And THE VERY GOD of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray GOD your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.” I Thessalonians 5:23

The health of our spirit, our body and our soul (mind-will-emotions), really comes down to what we think, how we reason, and, the choices we make on a moment – to – moment basis!

We truly are what we think!

“For as (a man) thinks in his heart, so is he...” Proverbs 23:7a

III. How Do Our Minds Become Evil And Corrupt?

- A. How Does “The Reprobate Mind” Develop?**
- B. What Does The Holy Scriptures Teach Concerning “Mental Illness”?**
- C. What Is The Role Of Satan In The Corruption Of Our Minds?**
- D. What Are The Devastating Consequences To Our Spirit, Soul & Body...
If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt?**

A. How Does “The Reprobate Mind” Develop?

The word “*reprobate*” appears in our English New Testament 6 times.

“*reprobate*” (Greek: “adokimos”) = disapproved; rejected

“Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know GOD, but in works they deny HIM, being abominable, disobedient, and unto every good work, reprobate.”

Titus 1:15-16

1.) ***“...their mind...is defiled...”***

“mind” (Greek: nous) = **“The seat (or source) of reflection, understanding, perception, judgement, decision-making and feelings.”**

W.E. Vine

“defiled” (Greek: miaino) = **“To pollute or contaminate morally.”**

Application: If our ***“mind”*** has been ***“defiled”***, polluted and morally contaminated, this will cause us to think, reason, judge, understand, perceive, make decisions...and even feel dirty, unclean, and confused!

Illustration: The person addicted and in bondage to pornography

“A person’s morality will determine their theology.” Bill Gothard

2.) ***“...their...conscience is defiled.”***

“conscience” (Greek: suneidesis) = **“A knowing with oneself; the witness borne to one’s conduct by conscience; that faculty by which we apprehend the will of GOD, as that which is designed to govern our lives.”**

Application: If our “*conscience*” has been “*defiled*”, polluted and contaminated morally, this will hinder us from knowing and understanding GOD HIMSELF and HIS will for our lives, and, thus not be able to govern or live our lives according to HIS will!

Illustration: The child molester. We ask ourselves, “How could anyone do this terrible, terrible act?”

Answer – “...*their...conscience is defiled.*”

Illustration: The unborn baby-murderer. We ask the question, “How can anyone who calls themselves a “doctor”, destroy and brutally murder thousands upon thousands of precious, defenseless children?”

Answer – “...*their...conscience is defiled.*”

THE WAY WE THINK IS WHO WE ARE!

THE WAY WE THINK WILL BE THE WAY WE LIVE!

Application: Once again we need to be reminded of this frightening and sad Truth. We can be so deceived and perverted in our thinking and reasoning, that we think and reason that our lifestyle is not evil and corrupt!

3.) They are “...*unbelieving*...”

Illustration: The so called “atheist”

4.) “*They profess that they know GOD, but in works they deny HIM...*”

Illustration: The transvestite who proudly stated that he loved
GOD and JESUS

5.) They are “...*abominable*...”

New American Standard Version: “...*detestable*...”

Living Bible Paraphrase: “...*rotten*...” & “...*worthless*...”

Application: Scripture declares that there are basically 3 types
of people in the world concerning their spiritual
condition...

- Spiritually hot – Those trying to follow CHRIST with all of their heart
- Spiritually cold – Those who do not know much about THE LORD
- Spiritually lukewarm – Those who say they love CHRIST, but they
are living for sin, themselves and the Devil

“...*These Truths saith THE AMEN, THE FAITHFUL AND TRUE
WITNESS, THE BEGINNING OF THE CREATION OF GOD...
I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot: I would you
were cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither
cold nor hot, I will spit you out of MY mouth.*” Revelation 3:14b-16

6.) They are “...*disobedient*...”

That is, they are “...*disobedient*...” to THE ALMIGHTY GOD, HIS Holy Scriptures, and HIS Ways.

Conclusion: Because of these 6 marks or evidences, their so called “...*good work*...” and religious activities are “...*reprobate*.” That is, rejected by GOD.

Application: These people may attend religious gatherings, or, even a very Biblical, CHRIST-exalting Church regularly. They may sing all the righteous songs, shout “Hallelujah!” when the Preacher makes a point in his sermon, “go forward” at the invitation “To come to the altar”, and even give their money to that Church, other religious organizations and different charities. But in the eyes of THE ALMIGHTY GOD, they are not truly “*saved*” and “...*born-again*...”. They are not true followers-of-THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!

So how does someone arrive at this point to where THE ALMIGHTY GOD totally rejects them?

Romans 1:18-32

“...GOD gave them over to a reprobate mind...” Romans 1:28

“The Progression Downward To Eternal Destruction And Judgement Of Someone Who Gives Themselves Over To *A Reprobate Mind*”

Step #1 – They are somewhat knowledgeable of GOD (vv.18-20)

*** *“For the wrath of GOD is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress The Truth in unrighteousness.”*** (v. 18)

Application: Somewhere and somehow in the reprobate’s lifetime, *“The Truth”* has been shared with them.

Illustrations: GODly parent(s) or grandparent(s); a Sunday School Teacher; a television or radio program; a Gospel Tract; or a verbal witness by someone.

* ***“Because that which may be known of GOD is evident in them, for GOD made it evident to them.” (v.19)***

Application: This speaking of their conscience. Everyone has one. But we learned earlier in Titus 1:15, that our conscience can become “...*defiled*...”

What is this that “...*is evident in them...(and)...to them.*”?

* ***“For the invisible things of HIM from the creation of the world, are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even HIS eternal power and GODHEAD, so that they are without excuse.” (v.20)***

Application: This speaks of nature and THE ALMIGHTY GOD’s creation. As all mankind looks at the universe, whether the majestic heavens above, or a single blade of grass under his feet, he beholds THE ALMIGHTY GOD’s “...*eternal power and GODHEAD*...”
They “...*are clearly seen (and) understood*...”

So what is the indictment by THE ALMIGHTY GOD HIMSELF?

“...*they are without excuse.*”

Application: No one...can ever say to THE ALMIGHTY GOD, when they stand before HIM someday in judgement: “YOU never told me!”

Step #2 – They make three very destructive decisions in their thinking and reasoning (vv. 18b & 21a)

*** They “...*suppress The Truth in unrighteousness...*” (v. 18b)**

Application: These people with “...*a reprobate mind...*” have heard “...*The Truth...*”, but in their minds, their thinking, and their reasoning...they “...*suppress...*” or “hold It down!”

“...*they did not like to retain GOD in their thinking...*” (v.28)

“...*so do these also resist The Truth, men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.*” II Timothy 3:8b

*** “...*they glorified HIM not as GOD...*” (v.21a)**

Application: In other words, the “...*reprobate mind...*” chooses not to acknowledge THE ALMIGHTY GOD for WHO HE IS, and that HE demands and deserves them to “...*glorify HIM...*” In fact, verse 23 informs us that they...

“...*changed the glory of THE UNCORRUPTIBLE GOD into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and to fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.*”

*** They “...*were not thankful...*” (v.21a)**

Application: That is, the person with the “...*reprobate mind...*” does not recognize nor choose to believe that... “*Every good and perfect gift (in their lives, including their very existence), is from above, and comes down from THE FATHER OF LIGHTS...*” James 1:17a

Step #3 – They become “...vain in their imaginations...” (v.21b)

“vain” (Greek: “mataioo”) = foolish

“imagination” (Greek: “logismos”) = reasoning; thoughts

“...they...became (foolish) in their (reasonings and thinking)...”

“became” – This speaks of a “progression” over time. In this case...

“A Progression Downward To Eternal Destruction And Judgement”

Step #4 – “...their foolish heart was darkened.” (v.21c)

“The seat (or source) of reflection, understanding, perception, judgement, decision making, and even feelings.” W.E. Vine

“darkened” (Greek: “skotizo”) = full of darkness

Application: Think of this now! If someone’s “mind” & “heart”, someone’s thinking, understanding, reasoning, judgement, decision making and even their feelings is “full of darkness”, there is...

**No room for any light! No room for any Truth!
No room for THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

Who is responsible for this “...darkening...”?

This too is a “Progression Downward”!

1.) We do by the choices we make

“And this is the condemnation, that Light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than Light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone that does evil hates the Light, neither comes to the Light, lest his deeds should be reproved.”

John 3:19-20

2.) The Devil does by blinding our minds

“But if our Gospel be hidden, it is hidden to them that are lost, in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them which do not believe, lest the Light of the glorious Gospel of CHRIST, WHO is the image of GOD, should shine unto them.”

II Corinthians 4:3-4

3.) THE LORD does by the judgement that HE executes

“...GOD also gave them up to uncleanness...” (v.24)

“...GOD gave them up unto vile affections...” (v.26)

“...GOD gave them over to a reprobate mind...” (v.28)

“For whosoever has, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance, but whosoever does not have, from him shall be taken away even what he has. Therefore I speak to them in Parables, because they seeing see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.” Matthew 13:12-13,15

**“Light and Truth received...brings more Light and Truth.
Light and Truth rejected...brings darkness.
Thus, even the Light and Truth someone may have at one time...
is taken away!”**

Step #5 – They become more proud, arrogant and boastful. (v.22)

“Professing themselves to be wise, they become fools.”

Sometimes the most “intelligent” and “educated” are the most vain, foolish, deceived, confused, evil, and perverted!

Illustration: Self-professing, so called “atheists”

Step #6 – They become “religious” (vv.23, 25)

“And changed the glory of THE UNCORRUPTIBLE GOD into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Who changed The Truth of GOD into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than THE CREATOR, WHO is blessed for ever. Amen.”

Illustrations:

- *Hindu’s with their worship of millions of gods**
- *Muslims with their worship of jihad & violence**
- *Jews with their worship of The Law**
- *Animists with their worship of animals & nature**
- *Roman Catholics with their worship of Mary**
- *Humanists with their worship of education**
- *Satanists with their worship of Satan**

This is why... “Religious” people are the most deceived people!

In verse 25, what is the “...lie...” spoken of here?

The “...lie...” is man worshipping himself instead of GOD. That is, desiring to be the lord and master of his own life, rather than have THE LORD do so! This was the very first “lie” spoken by Satan to mankind in Genesis chapter 3, when, after he asks Eve...

“Yea, has GOD said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?” (v.1)

“You shall not surely die.” (v.4)

Step #7 – They become more & more “vile” in their lifestyle. (vv. 24, 26-27)

“Wherefore GOD also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves. For this cause GOD gave up unto vile affections, for even their woman did change the natural use into that which is against nature, and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another, men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was deserved.”

**Application: Notice in vv. 24 & 26, The Holy Scriptures declare...
“GOD gave them up...” unto these lifestyles of all
kinds of sexual immorality...including sodomy!**

Where do these “unclean” and “vile” passions originate?

“...the lusts of their own hearts...”

“heart” (Greek: kardia) = “The seat (or source) of moral nature and spiritual life; The seat of grief, joy, desires, affections, perceptions, imagination, conscience, thoughts, reasoning powers, understanding, purpose, will and faith.” W.E. Vine

“The way we think...leads to the way we feel.”

And

“The way we feel...leads to the way we live.”

Step #8 – “**GOD (has given) them over to a reprobate mind...**” (v.28a)

“And even as they did not like to retain GOD in their knowledge, GOD gave them over to a reprobate mind...”

NASB Version translates this: “...*a depraved mind...*”

“Uuto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know GOD, but in works they deny HIM, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”

Titus 1:15-16

“...their mind...is defiled...”

“defiled” (Greek: miaino) = “To pollute or contaminate morally”

“...they did not like to retain GOD in their knowledge...”

NASB Version translates this portion of Scripture in this way...

“...they did not see fit to acknowledge GOD any longer...”

“...do those acts which are not convenient (proper)...” (v.28b)

“Being filled with all unrighteousness...(and) wickedness...” (v.29a)

“filled” (Greek: pleroo) = “To fill to the full” W.E. Vine

**Application: There is no room for GODly, righteous thinking & reasoning,
thus there is no room for GODly, righteous feelings,
and thus there is no room for GODly, righteous living!
Again, they are totally “...reprobate...depraved...defiled...” !**

*** “*fornication*” (Greek: porneia) = All forms of illicit sexual relationships, including adultery, sodomy, bestiality, incest, sex with the dead and viewing pornography.**

*** “*covetousness*” = The desire to have more. The opposite is contentment.**

*** “*maliciousness*” = Someone of evil quality; Vicious in character.**

*** “full of envy” = The feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others.**

*** “*murder*” = To kill someone outside of the context of war.**

*** “*debate*” = Strife; Contention.**

*** “deceit” = Crafty; Full of guile.**

*** “*malignity*” = Evil manners or character; An evil disposition that tends to put the worst construction on everything.**

- * ***“whisperers”*** = Secret slanderers.
- * ***“disobedient to parents”*** = Rejection of parent’s authority.
- * ***“backbiters”*** = Evil-speaking of others; open slanderers.
- * ***“haters of GOD”*** = Despising of THE LORD HIMSELF.
- * ***“despiteful”*** = Violent
- * ***“proud”*** = Haughty
- * ***“boasters”*** = Wanderer; vagabond; imposter
- * ***“inventors of evil things”*** = Always thinking of new ways to sin.
- * ***“without understanding”*** = Foolish; confused
- * ***“covenant breakers”*** = Promise breakers; vow breakers
- * ***“without natural affection”*** = Sodomy; bestiality; sex with the dead
- * ***“implacable”*** = Treacherous promise breakers with the desire to hurt and inflict pain.
- * ***“unmerciful”*** = Without mercy

Application: Where do these evil, vile and wicked thoughts, feelings and actions originate from?

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF answers this question when **HE** proclaims...

“But those words which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart, and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are which defile a man...”

Step #9 – They give their full support and consent to those who participate in these wicked lifestyles. (v.32)

“And although they know the Ordinance of GOD, that those who practice such behavior are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.”

Romans 1:32

This can be anyone in their lives at anytime!

Illustrations: Common people; entertainers; politicians; “religious” leaders; etc.

This is their way of thinking and reasoning!

This is their way of acting and living!

This is who they are!

*** They “...know the judgment of GOD...”**

*** They believe and accept and acknowledge that they who think, reason, act and live these lifestyles, are “...worthy of death...”**

Application: This “...death...” is both physical and spiritual (i.e. – hell)

“...they not only (continue to) do the same (live the same, wicked lifestyle) but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.”

GOD has given “...them over to a reprobate mind...”

Step #10 – They receive the judgment of ALMIGHTY GOD (Romans 2:2)

“But we are sure that the judgment of GOD is according to Truth against them which commit such acts.”

What is this “...judgment of GOD...” ?

“Who knowing the judgment of GOD, that they which commit such acts are worthy of death...” Romans 1:32a

“death” = Secondly, can apply to all types of physical sickness that can lead to physical death

Illustrations: * A.I.D.S. (Average male sodomite has 100 different partners in his life)

*** S.T.D.S.**

*** Cancer (One of the leading causes of breast cancer among woman is that woman being bitter and unforgiving of others, usually another woman)**

“death” = Primarily, referring to spiritual death. A separation from GOD for all eternity in a real place called hell!

The Holy Scriptures also refer to this as “...*the second death*.”

“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.” Revelation 21:8

Someone has defined hell as...

“Someone saying to THE ALMIGHTY GOD all of their life... ‘Leave me alone.’ Finally THE LORD says to them, ‘O.K. I will’”

So what is a “*reprobate*” person?

And

Who possesses a “*reprobate mind*” ?

A “*reprobate*” person is someone who possesses a “*reprobate mind*”, and thus is someone who has learned and been taught about THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, but in their mind and heart has rejected these Truths...and THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF. And because they have turned their back on THE ALMIGHTY GOD and HIS Word, GOD has rejected them. From GOD’s perspective, they have no more opportunity to be saved and redeemed. This, ladies and gentlemen, is the most frightening place to be in concerning your relationship to THE ONE AND ALMIGHTY GOD!

B. What Do The Holy Scriptures Teach Concerning “Mental Illness”?

**“Soul” = *Our mind – The way we think and reason
*Our will – The decisions and choices we make
*Our emotions – The way we feel**

Application: So this is a soul issue. This includes the “mental” aspect, but as it relates to our way of thinking, our way of reasoning, the decisions and choices we make, and the way we feel!

Bill Gothard: “Mental illness is just varying degrees of irresponsibility.”

Irresponsibility’s such as: *Not forgiving those who hurt us

***Not loving our enemies**

***Drug and/or alcohol abuse**

***Listening to evil music (especially demonic)**

We must be held accountable before THE ALMIGHTY GOD and others for our thinking, our reasoning and of course our behavior!

***Clinical Depression**

***Manic Depression**

***Suicidal Depression**

***Schizophrenia**

***Hearing Voices**

***Bi-polar Disorder**

***Obsessive-compulsive Disorder**

***Psychotic**

***Paranoid-schizophrenia**

“THE LORD is my SHEPHERD, I shall not lack. HE restores my soul...”
Psalm 23:1,3a

“Woe to the rebellious children, says THE LORD, that take counsel, but not of ME...” Isaiah 30:1a

“Psychiatry” = “The branch of medicine concerned with the study and treatment of disorders of the mind, including psychosis and neuroses.” Webster

“psyche” = soul

“iatreia” = healing

“Healing of the soul”!

Man labels it...

“Clinical Depression” = “A brain disorder characterized by persistently depressed mood or loss of interest in activities, causing significant impairment in daily life.”

“...a MAN of sorrows and acquainted with grief...” Isaiah 53:3b

Application: No true follower-of-THE LORD JESUS CHRIST should be depressed all the time. If this is the case, then there is unconfessed sin in their life that they have not repented of, and thus have not been forgiven and cleansed of by GOD!

Illustration: The sin of not forgiving someone who has offended you

Application: The true follower-of-THE LORD JESUS CHRIST should possess and experience “...*the fruit of THE SPIRIT...*” which is “*joy*”, in their mind, heart and emotions!

Man labels it...

“Mania” = “A wild, violent insanity, characterized by abnormal excitability; exaggerated feelings of well-being; flight of ideas; excessive activity; etc.” Webster

THE ALMIGHTY GOD calls it sin, for HE Commands us in HIS Word...

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as GOD for CHRIST’s sake has forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:31-32

Man labels it...

“Manic-depression” = “Having a psychosis characterized by alternating periods of mania (euphoria) and melancholia, or mental depression.” Webster

THE ALMIGHTY LORD GOD calls it being “...*double-minded*...”

“A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.” James 1:8

Man labels it...

“Suicidal-depression” = The desire to end one’s life.

THE ALMIGHTY GOD exclaims that it is murder! JESUS taught...

“For out of the heart proceed...murders...these thoughts defile a man...”
Matthew 15:19-20

Man labels it...

**“Schizophrenia” = (From two Greek words: “schizein” = split/divided
“phren” = mind)**

This is the very condemnation that ALMIGHTY GOD warns us of...

“A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.” James 1:8

Application: In this sence...we all are “schizophrenic”!

**“Schizophrenia” = “A mental disorder characterized by indifference,
withdrawal, hallucinations, and delusions of
persecution and omnipotence (all powerful).”**
Webster

**Note: “Paranoia” is often linked to “schizophrenia”, and is defined by
Webster in very similar terms.**

THE ALMIGHTY LORD calls this “...wicked...” thinking & reasoning...

“...the way of the wicked (THE LORD) turns upside down.” Psalms 146:9b

Man calls it...

“Hearing Voices” = “Voices” that speak lies into someone’s mind to commit evil and wickedness.

Illustrations: “Kill that person because they have offended and hurt you.”

“Sexually assault that woman or child because someone once did this to you.”

“You are JESUS CHRIST.”

Note: These “voices” are only “heard” by the person they are “spoken” to.

THE ALMIGHTY GOD calls this listening to Satan and/or his demons...

“You are of your Father the Devil, and the lusts of your Father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in The Truth, because there is no Truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own, for he is a liar, and the Father of it.” John 8:44

- * Mohammed with the birth of Islam**
- * Joseph Smith with the beginning of Mormanism**
- * Charles Taze Russell with the birth of The Jehovah Witnesses**
- * Many Roman Catholic “Saints” communicating with “Mary”**

Man labels it...

“Obsessive – Compulsive Disorder”

“obsessive” = 1.) “Originally, the act of an evil spirit in possessing or ruling a person.” But also...

2.) “The fact or state of being obsessed with an idea, or desire, or emotion.” Webster

**“compulsive” = “An irresistible impulse to perform some irrational act.”
Webster**

Thus this combined definition...

“Being obsessed (perhaps possessed with, or ruled by an evil spirit), with an irresistible impulse to perform some irrational act.”

THE LORD calls it not being controlled by THE HOLY SPIRIT, for we are Commanded by HIM to be...

“...filled with THE SPIRIT...” Ephesians 5:18b

***“...fruit of THE SPIRIT...(of)...temperance...(or)...self-control...”
Galatians 5:22-23***

“Addiction” = “To give assent to; To be devoted to; To give oneself up habitually to.” Webster

Note: With all of these definitions, there is personal choice or decision made!

Man labels this...

“Bi-Polar Disorder” =

Once again, THE LORD calls it being “...doubleminded...”

“A doubleminded man is unstable in all his ways.” James 1:8

**“...all his ways.” = This would include the “way” he thinks and reasons!
This would include the “way” he feels!
This would include the “way” he lives his life!**

“Psychiatry”

“Clinical Depression”

“Manic Depression”

“Suicidal Depression” “Bi - Polar Disorder” “Mania” “Schizophrenia”

“Hearing Voices” “Obsessive – Compulsive Disorder” “Addictions”

UNFORGIVENESS!

The sin of “Unforgiveness”...the choice and decision we may make to refuse to forgive someone who has hurt or offended us, always leads to bitterness and anger, which will always eventually poison and corrupt our minds, our thinking, our reasoning, our emotions...and thus our behavior and the way we live our lives!

**“The Downward Spiral Of Destruction
From
Refusing To Forgive Those Who Have Hurt Us
And
How To Experience GOD’s Complete
Deliverance And Healing”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxpigJP6sxQ>

“Be angry, and sin not, let not the sun go down upon your wrath.”
Ephesians 4:26

“Neither give place to the Devil.” Ephesians 4:27

“...place...” (Greek: Topos) = Ground

“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice, and be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as GOD for CHRIST’s sake has forgiven you.” Ephesians 4:31-32

C. What Is The Role Of Satan & Demons In The Corruption Of Our Minds?

1.) He is “...*subtil*...” Genesis 3:1a

“*subtil*” (Hebrew: “arum”) = Crafty; Cunning

“But I fear, lest by any means, as the Serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in CHRIST.” II Corinthians 11:3

“*beguiled*” (Greek: “exapatao”) = “To be greatly deceived” R. Young

“...minds...corrupted from the simplicity that is in CHRIST.”

2.) He “twists” The Word of GOD

(That is, he takes GOD’s Holy Scriptures out of context, or, only quotes parts of It)

This is another of Satan’s main weapons!

Illustration: His 3 temptations of JESUS during HIS 40 day fast.

“And he (the Devil) said unto the woman, Indeed, has GOD said, You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?” Genesis 3:1b

This is his cunning deception!

3.) He outright lies

“And the Serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die, for GOD knows that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

Genesis 3:4-5

Application: Lying and deception is Satan’s most powerful weapon in his arsenal, and he has had thousands of years to perfect it. Thus...he is very good at it!

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST made this indictment of him...

“He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in The Truth, because there is no Truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own, for he is a liar, and the father of it.” John 8:44b

What is Satan's primary lie that he attempts to get us to believe?

"...you shall be as gods..." Genesis 3:5

Application: The Devil tempts us to disobey THE LORD by appealing to our pride and self-will. Basically he is saying to us...

"Be your own god. Do whatever you want to do!"

Pride may be the greatest "corrupter" of our minds... because all sins originate from pride!

Satan will attempt to use all five of our physical senses to get us to sin...

***Sight *Smell *Sound *Touch *Taste**

All five of these senses were involved in this very first temptation on GOD's created earth...

- Eve saw the fruit...
- Eve smelled the fruit...
- Eve heard the Devil lie to her about the fruit...
- Eve touched the fruit...
- Eve tasted the fruit.

ALL TRUTH & ALL LIES ARE BELIEVED OR REJECTED IN THE MIND

***“...The Tempter...”* Matthew 4:3**

***“For the flesh (including our minds) lusts against THE SPIRIT, and THE SPIRIT against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other...”* Galatians 5:17a**

So now, right at this point, we must make a choice. Will we listen to Satan and our “...flesh...” and experience defeat, or, will we listen to GOD’s HOLY SPIRIT, and say “No” to that temptation, and thus experience victory?!

Application: In summary, this is how temptation works...

- 1.) Satan tempts us**
- 2.) We think and reason about that specific temptation**
- 3.) We then choose either to surrender to that temptation, or, through the power of THE HOLY SPIRIT, say “No” to that temptation, and thus experience victory over it**

We are responsible before ALMIGHTY GOD for the choice we make!

- * **Looking at: A righteous object like The Holy Scriptures, or,
A wicked object like pornography**
- * **Listening to: A righteous song, or,
A wicked song**
- * **Talking about: A righteous topic like The LORD JESUS CHRIST, or,
A wicked topic like an ethnic joke**
- * **Spending time at: A righteous place like a Church, or,
A wicked place like a tavern**

**Application: Now that Satan discerns what we are thinking
and reasoning about by observing our behavior,
he then tempts us about that very behavior we are
thinking and reasoning about!**

*“Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted by GOD,
for GOD cannot be tempted with evil, neither does HE tempt any man,
But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and
enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin, and sin,
when it is finished, brings forth death.” James 1: 13-15*

Notice this sequence...

* “...*every man is tempted...*” (v. 14a)

* “...*he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed.*” (v. 14b)

Illustration: Eve was already looking at the forbidden fruit, thinking and reasoning within herself, just how inviting that fruit was. At that point, the Devil came to her and tempted her!

* “*Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin...*” (v.15a)

* “...*and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.*” (v.15b)

GOD’s Word is the most significant influence that can have a transforming power in our minds for GODliness and health!

“For whosoever has, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance, but whosoever has not, from him shall be taken away even what he has. (v.12)

“Therefore I speak unto them in Parables, because they seeing see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.” (v.13)

“For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart and should be converted, and I should heal them.” (v.15)

“heart” (Greek – Kardia) = “The word came to stand for man’s entire mental and moral activity, both the rational and emotional elements. In other words, the (word) “heart” is used figuratively for the hidden springs of the personal life. As to its usage in The New Testament, it denotes... 1.) The seat (or source) of moral nature and life; 2.) The seat of grief, joy, desires, the affections, the perceptions, the thoughts, the understanding, the reasoning powers, the imagination, conscience, the intentions, purpose, the will and faith.” W.E. Vine

Application: Notice what we are missing if we choose to reject the many Truths of GOD's Holy and Powerful Word...

1.) "...*understand(ing) with (our) heart...*"

2.) "...*be(ing) converted...*"

3.) "...*and...heal(ing)...*" from THE LORD HIMSELF

"...*heal(ing)...*" from what?

All sickness could be involved...and certainly all the "soul-sicknesses" we have studied earlier!

"When anyone hears The Word of The Kingdom, and does not understand, then comes the wicked one, and catches away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side." (v.19)

Application: They "...*hear The Word of The Kingdom...*" (but, they)... *do not understand...*" Why? They choose not to!

What happens next?

"...then comes the wicked one, and catches away that which was sown in his heart."

“But if our Gospel be hidden, it is hidden to them that are lost, in whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest The Light of The Glorious Gospel of CHRIST, WHO is The IMAGE OF GOD, should shine unto them.” II Corinthians 4:3-4

“...has blinded the minds of them which believe not...”

***“...for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”
II Corinthians 11:14b***

Level #1 – Indirectly Through The World

“...the god of this world...” II Corinthians 4:4a

Illustrations: *Ungodly, wicked music

***Horoscopes**

***Ouiji Boards**

***Seances**

***Palm & Tea Leaves “Readings”**

**Application: These are “entry level” involvements with Satan.
Often outright oppression and even possession begins here!**

Level #2 – Directly Through Attack And Temptation

“Put on the whole armor of GOD, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil. 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. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith you shall be able to quench the fiery darts of the wicked one.”

Ephesians 6:11-12, 16

“The Oppression Of Suggestion”

Illustration: The Apostle Peter in Matthew 16:21-23

Illustration: Judas Iscariot in John 13:2

“And supper being ended, the Devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray HIM...” John 13:2

Level #3 – Ultimately Through Literal Possession

This of course is where Satan and/or his demons actually come into a person and resides within them!

Illustration: Judas Iscariot in John 13:21-27

**So what began with “The Power Of Suggestion”...
Concluded with “The Power Of Possession”!**

“The Maniac Of Gadara”

“Maniac” (Webster) = “Wildly insane; raving; violently insane; lunatic”

Notice these characteristics of this possessed man of Gadara...

* “...*had devils for a long time...*” (v.27)

* “...*wore no clothes...*” (v.27)

* “...*did not live in a house, but in the tombs.*” (v.27)

* The demons possessing him knew who JESUS was (v.28)

* He displayed supernatural strength (v.29a)

* “...*driven by the Devil into the wilderness.*” (v.29b)

* He was possessed by “...*many devils...*” (v.30)

“...*sitting at the feet of JESUS, clothed, and in his right mind...*” (v.35)

Conclusion: From this passage we learn that evil, destructive and angry thinking, reasoning and behavior can be Satanic & demonic driven!

D. What Are The Devastating Consequences To Our Spirit, Soul And Body... If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt?

Truth #1 – Within The Holy Scriptures, GOD’s Infallible Word, The Bible, the English words: “*mind*”, “*heart*”, “*thoughts*” and “*thinking*” are often interchangeable, and many times mean the very same part of our being, both in The Old and New Testaments.

“This I recall to my mind (Hebrew: leb), therefore have I hope.”
Lamentations 3:21

“And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the of the thoughts of his heart (Hebrew: leb), was only evil continually.” Genesis 6:5

“And JESUS, perceiving the thought (Greek: dialogismos), of their heart (Greek: kardia)...” Luke 9:47a

Hebrew: “*heart*” = “The seat (or source) of feeling, affections, intellect, understanding, and insight.” William Wilson

Greek: “*mind*” = “The seat (or source) of reflection, understanding, perception, judgment, decision making, and even feelings.” W.E. Vine

Truth #2 – “For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he...” Proverbs 23:7a

THE WAY WE THINK AND REASON...

LEADS TO THE WAY WE FEEL!

AND

THE WAY WE FEEL...

LEADS TO THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES!

THUS

THE WAY WE THINK AND REASON...

IS WHO WE ARE!

Truth #3 – Because the way we think and reason, leads to the way we feel, and because the way we feel, leads to the way we live our lives, it is the decisions and choices we make, where this whole sequence begins.

*“For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the works of the flesh, but those who are according to **THE SPIRIT**, the works of **THE SPIRIT**. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on **THE SPIRIT** is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward GOD, for it (the mind) does not subject itself to **The Law Of GOD**, for it (the mind) is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please **GOD**.” Romans 8:5-8*

*“Be not deceived, **GOD** is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to **THE SPIRIT**, shall of **THE SPIRIT** reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8*

Application: So as we study in detail, “**The Devastating Consequences To Our Spirit, Soul And Body... If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt**”, let us remember, as these two Scripture Passages clearly remind us, it all begins with the decisions and choices that we make...

In Our Minds And In Our Hearts!

“And THE VERY GOD of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray to GOD your whole spirit, and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our LORD JESUS CHRIST.” I Thessalonians 5:23

**Part #1 – What Are The Devastating Consequences To Our Spirit...
If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt?**

“For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the works of the flesh, but those who are according to THE SPIRIT, the works of the SPIRIT. For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the SPIRIT is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward GOD, for it (the mind) does not subject itself to The Law Of GOD, for it (the mind) is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please GOD.” Romans 8:5-8

**** For those who are according to the flesh set their minds (that is, their thinking and reasoning), on the works of the flesh...(v.5a)***

What does The Apostle Paul mean here by “...the works of the flesh...”?

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like, of which I tell you before, as I have told you in time past, that they which do such acts shall not inherit the Kingdom of GOD.”
Galatians 5:19-21

* ***“For the mind (thinking and reasoning) set on the flesh is death...” (v.6a)***

“For the wages (i.e.- payment) of sin is death...” Romans 6:23a

“death” = Physical (As we will learn more of later)

Emotional (As we will learn more of later)

***Spiritual – Separation from GOD...now on earth
and eventually in a real place called Hell!***

* ***“Because the mind (thinking and reasoning) set on the flesh is hostile toward GOD, for it does not subject itself to The Law of GOD, for it is not even able to do so.” (v.7)***

* ***They “...cannot please GOD.” (v.8)***

Application: They have no desire to “...please GOD...” anyway!

Part #2 – What Are The Devastating Consequences To Our Soul ... If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt?

“Soul” = * Our mind – The way we think and reason

*** Our will – The decisions and choices we make**

*** Our emotions – The way we feel**

“A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways.” James 1:8

*** *A double-minded man...***

Application: This speaks of the person who is attempting to live a “double” life. That is, they are attempting to live for THE LORD and themselves at the same time. JESUS HIMSELF instructed us that this was impossible...

“No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve GOD and (yourself).” Matthew 6:24

* “...*is unstable*...”

“*unstable*” (Greek: Akatastatos) = Unsettled; disorderly; restless;
unruly; cannot be restrained
W.E. Vine

* “...*in all his ways.*”

“A double-minded man (that is, the person who is attempting to live for THE LORD and himself at the same time), *is unstable* (that is, unsettled, disorderly, restless, unruly, and cannot be restrained) *in all his ways* (that is, the ...*way*... he thinks, reasons, feels and lives his whole life!)”

“*Now the end of The Commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned.*” I Timothy 1:5

“*Holding faith and a good conscience, which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck.*” I Timothy 1:19

“*Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.*” I Timothy 3:9

“Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure, but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know GOD, but in works they deny HIM, being abominable, disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”

Titus 1:15-16

“conscience” (Greek: suneidesis) = “A knowing with oneself; The witness borne to one’s conduct by conscience; That faculty by which we apprehend the will of GOD, as that which is designed to govern our lives.” Vine

“...having their conscience seared with a hot iron...” I Timothy 4:2b

**“seared” (Greek: kausteriazō) = “Branded or burned with a hot iron”
Robert Young - “Young’s Concordance”**

“The reference is to apostates whose consciences are branded with the effects of their sin.” W.E. Vine

Application: Greatly damaged...if not totally destroyed!

People that possess this kind of “conscience”, are people that sin and then may commit great atrocities and destructions. We wonder how they could do this! They are not convicted or troubled in the least way...

Because they have no conscience!

Illustrations: Adolph Hitler; Joseph Stalin; Charles Manson; Isis...

Those that murder babies inside and outside the womb!

**“A ...seared conscience... is a conscience that eventually goes silent.”
Dr. Charles Stanley**

“And herein do I exercise myself, to always have a conscience void of offence toward GOD and men.” Acts 24:16

Application: So not only are we to have this “...*pure conscience...*” “...*toward GOD...*”, but we are to also obtain and possess it “...*toward men.*”

What is “...*a conscience void of offence toward...men*”?

It is wronging or hurting someone, whether it be in word, action, or attitude, and doing all in our power to make it right with them!

*** Asking them to forgive you!**

*** Making restitution if necessary!**

“THE LORD will smite you with madness, and blindness, and with bewilderment of heart.” Deuteronomy 28:28

“...the way of the wicked (THE LORD) turns upside down.” Psalm 146:9b

“There is no peace, saith my GOD, to the wicked.” Isaiah 57:21

Part #3 – What Are The Devastating Consequences To Our Body... If We Allow Our Minds To Become Evil And Corrupt?

Application: Every thought we think, every reasoning we make, every feeling we feel, and every action we take will have either a righteous or wicked consequence to our physical body!

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.”
Galatians 6:7-8

Stresses Related To Bodily Systems

- 1. Anger – The Cardiovascular System**
- 2. Guilt – The Nervous System**
- 3. Lust – The Glandular System**
- 4. Bitterness – The Digestive System**
- 5. Greed – The Immune System**
- 6. Fear – The Respiratory System**
- 7. Envy – The Musculoskeletal System**

*** Scripture connects Bitterness to Infertility...**

“Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David and said, How glorious was the King of Israel today, who uncovered himself today in the eyes of the handmaids of his servants, as one of the vain fellows shamelessly uncovers himself! And David said unto Michal, It was before THE LORD, WHO chose me before your father, and before all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of THE LORD, over Israel, therefore will I play before THE LORD. Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no child unto the day of her death.” II Samuel 6: 20-21, 23

*** Scripture connects Depression to Osteoporosis...**

*“For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing, my strength fails me because of my iniquity, and my bones are consumed.”
Psalm 31:10*

“A merry heart does good like a medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.” Proverbs 17:22

*** Scripture connects Unconfessed Sin to Bone Disease...**

“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.” Psalm 32:1,3

*** Scripture connects Pride to Weak Bones...**

*“Be not wise in your own eyes, fear THE LORD and depart from evil.
It shall be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones.”*

Proverbs 3:7-8

*** Scripture connects Envy to Bone Disease...**

“...envy (is) the rotting of the bones.” Proverbs 14:30b

*** Scripture connects Lust to Physical Death...**

“But everyone is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin, and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.” James 1:14-15

Illustrations: 1) *“Lust”* for immorality – Sodomites acquiring A.I.D.S.
2) *“Lust”* for power – Adolf Hitler and The Nazi’s
3) *“Lust”* for wealth – Howard Hughes

“As a man thinks (and reasons) in his heart, so is he...” Proverbs 23:7a

THE WAY WE THINK AND REASON...IS WHO WE ARE!

THE WAY WE THINK AND REASON...

LEADS TO THE WAY WE FEEL!

THE WAY WE FEEL...LEADS TO THE WAY WE LIVE!

THE WAY WE LIVE...

LEADS TO THE HEALTH/DESTRUCTION OF OUR BODY!

IV. How Do We Develop And Possess A GODly – Healthy Mind?

***Repentance!**

***Revival!**

***Reformation!**

***Restoration! (Physically-Emotionally-Spiritually)**

***Rejoicing!**

***Rest!**

**Part #1 – How To Have An Evil And Corrupt Mind From Our Past...
Totally Cleansed And Healed!**

**Part #2 – How To Develop, Possess And Protect Our Mind...
From Future Evil And Corruption!**

**Part #3 – What Are Some Of The Transforming And Powerful Results...
(Spiritually-Emotionally-Physically) From Developing And
Possessing A GODly – Healthy Mind?**

**Part #4 – Powerful Testimonies Of Several Followers-Of-CHRIST
That Have Experienced This Divine Cleansing And Healing
From Past Evil And Corrupt Thinking, Feeling, And Living...
But Are Now Developing & Possessing GODly – Healthy Minds!**

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever someone sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

**Part #1 – How To Have An Evil And Corrupt Mind From Our Past...
Totally Cleansed And Healed!**

IMPORTANT TRUTH!

**THE CLEANSING & HEALING FROM AN EVIL & CORRUPT MIND...
WILL BE OURS TO POSSESS...AS SWIFTLY AND COMPLETELY...
AS WE DECIDE TO ALLOW THE ALMIGHTY GOD TO BRING THE
CLEANSING AND HEALING...**

BY US CHOOSING TO FOLLOW HIM AND HIS WAYS!

**THIS CLEANSING & HEALING IS SO POWERFUL, THAT EVEN IF
OUR PAST LIFE INCLUDED MUCH DRUG OR ALCOHOL ABUSE,
PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE, VIEWING MUCH PORNOGRAPHY,
LISTENING TO UNGODLY MUSIC, INVOLVED IN WITCHCRAFT,
OR WE WERE INVOLVED IN A DEMONIC RELIGION OR CULT...**

THE ALMIGHTY GOD CAN & WILL CLEANSE AND HEAL OUR MIND!

THIS CLEANSING & HEALING CAN ALSO APPLY TO...

“PAINFUL MEMORIES”!

“THE LORD is my SHEPHERD, I shall not want. HE makes me to lie down in green pastures, HE leads me beside the still waters. HE restores my soul...” Psalm 23:1-3a

*** *“THE LORD is my SHEPHERD...”***

What does a “shepherd” do for his sheep?

***Guides**

***Provides**

***Protects**

*** *“...I shall not want.”* (That is, have any lack!)**

***“want”* or lack of what?**

***Guidance**

***Provision**

***Protection**

The cleansing and healing of our minds!

*** *“HE restores my soul...”***

***“restores”* (Hebrew: shub) = “To return to a former condition” Wilson**

***“soul”* (Hebrew: nephesh) = Our mind, will and emotions**

“And you shall know The Truth, and The Truth shall make you free.”

John 8:32

* *“...you shall know...”*

This is to “...*know*...” in our mind, our heart and our spirit!

* *“And you shall know The Truth...”*

What is “...*The Truth*...”?

1) “...*The Truth*...” is THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF!

“JESUS said unto him, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH and THE LIFE...”

John 14:6a

2) “...*The Truth*...” is The Holy Scriptures!

“...If you continue in MY Word, you are MY Disciples indeed, and you shall know The Truth, and The Truth shall make you free.” John 8:31b-32

* *“...and The Truth shall make you free.”*

“...*free*...” from what?

“...*free*...” from the evil and corruption that might be in our minds and in our hearts through past ways of wicked thinking and reasoning and also any “Painful Memories” from past hurts and abuse!

Step #1 – We Must Be Born-Again

“JESUS answered and said unto him, Verily, Verily I say unto you, except a man be born-again, he cannot see The Kingdom Of GOD.” John 3:3

“For GOD so loved the world, that HE gave HIS only Begotten SON, that whoever believes in HIM shall not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16

Step #2 – We Must Humble Ourselves

“But HE gives more grace. Wherefore HE says, GOD resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” James 4:6

Step #3 – We Must Confess Any Disobedience To THE LORD As Sin

“Come now and let us reason together, says THE LORD, though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” Isaiah 1:18

“If we confess our sins, HE is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” I John 1:9

- a) We must sincerely thank THE LORD for HIM allowing the abuse and/or neglect (See I Thessalonians 5:18)
- b) We must fully forgive the person or persons that perpetuated the abuse and/or neglect (See Matthew 18:21-35)
- c) We must wholeheartedly bless the person or persons that perpetuated the abuse and/or neglect (See Matthew 5:44)

Step #4 – We Must Stop Practicing Any Disobedience To THE LORD

“He that covers his sins shall not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy.” Proverbs 28:13

Step #5 – We Must Clear Our Conscience With THE LORD And Men

“And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward GOD and men.” Acts 24:16

Steps We Must Take To Clear Our Conscience “Toward...Men”

- 1. We must humble ourselves – Admit that we have wronged someone**
- 2. We must confess our sins to GOD and ask for HIS forgiveness**
- 3. We must confess our sins to those we have hurt and ask for forgiveness**
- 4. We must make restitution if needed (articles stolen; property damaged)**

“Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your Brother has ought against you, leave there your gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to your Brother, and then come and offer your gift.” Matthew 5:23-24

Application: If we can remember an offence that we have committed against someone else, no matter how small and long ago it was, we should ask for forgiveness from that person or persons, and make restitution if needed!

MY LIFE COMMITMENT

“HEAVENLY FATHER, I now see from the study of YOUR Holy Scriptures, that there are cause and effect sequences in relationship to the way I think and reason, and the choices I make. I see that when I choose to think and reason based on YOUR Word, wisdom and righteousness, I will receive the joy and blessings that result from these. However, I also see that when I choose to think and reason based on my own foolishness and wickedness, I will receive the sorrow and curses that accompany these. I now purpose, through YOUR grace and the power of THE HOLY SPIRIT, to seek to think and reason with the thoughts and reasoning’s that YOU would want me to think and reason with. I pray this in The Name Of THE LORD JESUS CHRIST and for HIS glory. Amen.”

**Part #2 – How To Develop, Possess And Protect Our Mind...
From Future Evil And Corruption!**

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

GOD’S INFALLIBLE WORD-THE HOLY SCRIPTURES!

“As the deer pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after THEE, O GOD. My soul thirsts for GOD, for THE LIVING GOD, when shall I come and appear before GOD?” Psalm 42:1-2

Illustration: A deer that is extremely thirsty, and is desperate for a drink of cool, refreshing water!

Application: We should have this same kind of “desperate thirst” for THE LORD and HIS Word! For it is only through GOD’s Word, The Holy Scriptures, that we really get to know HIM!

Where in our being does this “desperate thirst” originate?

Our “soul”!

**“soul” = Our mind (The thoughts and reasoning’s we think)
Our will (The decisions and choices we make)
Our emotions (The feelings we feel)**

“O GOD, YOU are my GOD, early will I seek YOU, my soul thirsts for YOU, my flesh longs for YOU in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is. My soul follows hard after YOU...” Psalm 63:1, 8a (See Psalm 143:6)

“Heal me O LORD, and I shall be healed, save me, and I shall be saved, for YOU are my PRAISE.” Jeremiah 17:14

Application: THE LORD will not “...heal...” every physical sickness... otherwise we would live forever here on this wicked earth. However, HE will “...heal...” every soul-sickness if we allow HIM to do so, as we follow our responsibilities of Developing, Possessing, and Protecting a “GODly-Healthy” way of thinking, reasoning, feeling and living the way HE Commands us to in HIS Holy Scriptures!

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

“But we have the mind of CHRIST.” II Corinthians 2:16b

Application: If “...we have the mind of CHRIST”, we should be thinking and reasoning in the ways HE does!

***“Let this mind be in you, which was also in CHRIST JESUS...”
Philippians 2:5***

The German Astronomer Kepler would often pray...

“O LORD, I thank THEE that THOU has permitted me to think THY thoughts after THEE!”

“That you put off concerning the former lifestyle the old man, which is corrupt, according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man, which after GOD is created in righteousness and true holiness.” Ephesians 4:22-24

“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

“sound” (Greek: Sophronismos) = Self-controlled; disciplined

Application: THE LORD GOD has given us a “self-controlled” and “disciplined” mind concerning what we choose to think and reason about!

How To Develop, Possess And Protect A GODly-Healthy Mind

IMMERSING OUR MINDS AND HEARTS WITH GOD’S INFALLABLE WORD – THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Application: This means immersing our minds and hearts with The Word Of GOD on a regular basis! This means developing habits of doing this as often as possible!

“...meditate therein day and night...”

“This Book Of The Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein, for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.” Joshua 1:8

“Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in The Law Of The LORD, and in HIS LAW does he meditate day and night.” Psalm 1:1-2

“meditate” (Hebrew: Hagah) = To talk to oneself

Application: To “...meditate...” in The Word Of GOD, The Holy Scriptures, means “To talk to oneself” concerning those Holy Scriptures!

Application: Every true Follower-of-CHRIST should have already, or be in the process of, developing the righteous “habit” of spending time alone with THE LORD practicing in-depth Bible reading and study. The primary time we should practice this is during the first part of our day. Then we can practice this during “extra times” if possible. We call these “Quiet Times”; “Devotions”; etc.

“...day and night...”

Application: This means for us to think and reason by “talking to ourselves” with the Word Of GOD every moment of every day!

This is THE LORD’s ideal! But no one reaches this ideal of course!

Memorize large portions of Holy Scripture!

“This Book Of The Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do all that is written therein, for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.” Joshua 1:8

“...prosperous...”and “...good success.”

Just in the context of this Series? A GODly-Healthy Mind... and thus...thinking, reasoning, feeling and living a “...prosperous...” life with “...good success”!

“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit in his season, his leaf also shall not wither, and whatever he does shall prosper.” Psalm 1:3

“...whatever he does shall prosper.”

Just in the context of this Series? A GODly-Healthy Mind... and thus... “...whatever...” we think, reason, feel and live... we “...shall prosper.”!

“Blessed are they that keep HIS Testimonies, and that seek HIM with the whole heart.” (v.2)

“With my whole heart have I sought THEE, O let me not wander from THY Commandments.” (v.10)

“THY Word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against THEE.” (v.11)

“THY Testimonies also are my delight and my counselors.” (v.24)

“My soul cleaves to the dust, quicken THOU me according to THY Word.” (v.25)

“This is my comfort in my affliction, for THY Word has quickened me.” (v. 50)

“My soul faints for THY salvation, but I hope in THY Word.” (v.81)

“Unless THY Law had been my delights, I should then have perished in my my affliction.” (v.92)

“YOU are my HIDING PLACE and my SHIELD, I hope in THY Word.” (v.114)

“Great peace have they who love THY Law, nothing shall offend them.” (v.165)

***“Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto THE LORD, and HE will have mercy upon him, and to our GOD, for HE will abundantly pardon. 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 55:7-9**

***“Then one of them, a lawyer, asked HIM...tempting HIM, and saying, MASTER, which is The Great Commandment in The Law? JESUS said unto him, You shall love THE LORD YOUR GOD with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is The First and Great Commandment.”* Matthew 22:35-38**

Application: We are Commanded here to “...love THE LORD (our) GOD...”

*** “...with all (our) heart...”**

*** “...with all (our) soul...”**

*** “...with all (our) mind...”**

***“For I delight in The Law of GOD, after the inward man, but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death? 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 7:22-25**

* “...I delight in The Law Of GOD...” (v.22a)

* “...after the inward man...” (v.22b)

* “So than with the mind I myself serve The Law Of GOD...” (v.25)

“I beseech you therefore Brethren, by the mercies of GOD, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto GOD, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of GOD.”

Romans 12:1-2

* “...present your bodies a living sacrifice...” (v.1)

Application: We should do this every day and all through each day!

* “...be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...” (v.2)

“...transformed...” (Greek: Metamorphoo) = English Metamorphosis

Illustration: An ugly worm transformed into a beautiful butterfly!

Application: How is our “...mind...” renewed?

IMMERSING IT IN THE WORD OF GOD!

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through GOD to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginings, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of GOD, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of CHRIST.”

II Corinthians 10:4-5

Application: The Apostle Paul reminds us here that we are engaged in an ongoing “...*warfare*...”, and through “...*the weapons*...” that GOD has given us, we are to be regularly “...*pulling down...strongholds*...” in our lives! (v.4)

“...*imanginations*...” (Greek: Logismos) = “Reasonings; Thoughts” Vine

Application: In this context, Paul is obviously referring to evil and corrupt “...*imagination*s...”

Illustrations: 1) Sexual Fantasies; 2) Thoughts of Hate, Anger & Bitterness

“...*casting (them) down*...” NASB translates this to “...*destroy them*...”

“...*every high thing* (including proud thoughts and reasonings)...*that exalts itself against the knowledge of GOD*...” (v.5)

“...*bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of CHRIST.*”

Application: “...*every thought*...” that may enter into our minds or hearts throughout any given day, should be brought “...*into captivity... to the obedience of CHRIST.*”

In other words, if it is a GODly, righteous “*thought*”, we can allow for it to remain and think on it some more.

But if it is an evil, corrupt “*thought*”, we must allow THE HOLY SPIRIT to take it away and “*destroy*” it immedietly!

IMMERSING & FILLING OUR MINDS & HEARTS WITH THE WORD OF GOD – THE HOLY SCRIPTURES THRU...

READING – STUDYING – MEMORIZING & MEDITATING THEREIN...AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!

- * *“...be strong in the LORD, and in the power of HIS Might.” (v.10)*

- * *“Put on the whole armour of GOD, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil.” (v.11)*

- * *“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.” (v.12)*

- * *“...take unto you the whole armour of GOD, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” (v.13)*

- * *“...loins girded about with Truth...” (v.14a)*

- * *“...the breastplate of righteousness...” (v.14b)*

* *“...feet shod with the preparation of The Gospel Of Peace...”* (v.15)

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings Good Tidings, that publishes peace, that brings Good Tidings Of Good, that publishes salvation, that says unto Zion, Thy GOD reigns!”

* *“...the shield of faith...”* (v.16)

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by The Word Of GOD.”
Romans 10:17

**THESE ONGOING “STEPS” OF OBEDIENCE...
WILL BRING US MORE LIGHT, STRENGTH & POWER
TO MAKE US EVEN MORE STRONGER TO FIGHT OFF
SATAN AND HIS ATTACKS!**

* *“...the helmet of salvation...”* (v.17a)

* *“...the sword of THE SPIRIT, which is The Word Of GOD...”* (v.17b)

* *“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in THE SPIRIT...”* (v.18)

1.) *“...for all Saints...”* (v.18b)

2.) For the spiritually lost through us being bold to share The Gospel

Application: All of these specific parts of this spiritual armour, are ours through Reading, Studying, Knowing, Obeying, Applying, and thus Experiencing The Powerful Word Of GOD!

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF WAS OUR PERFECT EXAMPLE!

Study Matthew 4:1-11

Application: If THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE VERY GOD IN THE FLESH had to do this, how much more do we?! This is why we must immerse ourselves in The Holy Scriptures through Reading, Studying, Memorizing, and *“...meditating therein day and night...”* !

“Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to GOD. And the peace of GOD, which passes all understanding, shall guard your hearts and minds through CHRIST JESUS. 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 4:6-8

Application: To develop and possess this GODly-Healthy thinking and reasoning, that THE HOLY SPIRIT, through The Apostle Paul, is Commanding us to practice here, can only be accomplished through THE HOLY SPIRIT and one of HIS “fruits” given to us in Galatians 5:22-23.

That “...fruit...” is “...temperance...” or “...self-control...”

Application: This “...temperance...” or “...self-control...” is vital to righteous thinking and reasoning! It means we submit our minds & hearts to the total control of THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Illustration: Not letting bitterness, anger and a vengeful spirit take root in our thinking and reasoning if we have been hurt or offended by someone!

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH!

**OUR OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH AND LIGHT GIVEN
TO US FROM THE LORD...
WILL BRING MORE TRUTH AND LIGHT FROM HIM
AND
GREATER HEALING AND STRENGTH TO EVERY
ASPECT OF OUR BEING!**

“Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.” Colossians 3:2

“...affection...” (Greek: “Phroneo”) = “Thinking; Reflection; Moral Interest”

W.E. Vine

GODLY...RIGHTEOUS...MUSIC!

“And HE has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our GOD...”
Psalm 40:3a

“THE LORD will Command HIS lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night HIS song shall be with me...” Psalm 42:8a

“THY Statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.”
Psalm 119:54

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with THE SPIRIT, speaking to yourselves in Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs, singing and making melody in your heart to THE LORD.”
Ephesians 5:18-19

“Let The Word of CHRIST dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs, singing with grace in your hearts to THE LORD.” Colossians 3:16

**Part #3 – What Are Several Of The Transforming And Powerful Results...
Spiritually – Emotionally & Physically From Developing And
Possessing A GODly – Healthy Mind?**

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

We could paraphrase this foundational Scripture as follows...

“Be not deceived, GOD is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that (thinks and reasons according) to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that (thinks and reasons according) to THE SPIRIT shall of THE SPIRIT reap life everlasting.” Galatians 6:7-8

“But THOU, O LORD, art a Shield for me, my Glory, and the lifter up of mine head. Psalm 3:3

“THE LORD is my SHEPHERD, I shall not want. HE makes me to lie down in green pastures, HE leads me beside the still waters. HE restores my soul...” Psalm 23:1-3a

***“THOU art my Hiding Place, THOU shalt preserve me from trouble,
THOU shalt surround me about with songs of deliverance.” Psalm 32:7***

What do we need “...*deliverance*...” from at various times in our lives?

- * Depression
- * Sorrow
- * Painful Memories
- * Physical Pain
- * Doubt
- * Discouragement
- * Anxiety
- * Fear
- * Confusion
- * Satan
- * Human Enemies
- * Fatigue

Application: THE LORD has given us GODly Music to serve us as...

“Songs Of Deliverance”!

“THE LORD redeems the soul of HIS Servants...” Psalm 34:22a

“...redeems...” (Hebrew: “Padah”) = To free!

***“HE has delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me...”
Psalm 55:18a***

“...delivered...” (Hebrew: “Padah”) = To free!

**Note: Proverbs is the Book in The Holy Scriptures that has the most
“Cause And Effect” sequences...whether evil or righteous.**

***“My son, do not forget (this speaks of memorization and meditation)
MY Law (this speaks of GOD’s Word), but let your heart (the source
of our thinking, reasoning, decision making, choices, feelings, etc.)
keep MY Commandments (this speaks of obeying GOD’s Word).”***
Proverbs 3:1

What are the righteous results and consequences of following the above?

“For length of days, long life and peace shall they add to thee.” Proverbs 3:2

* ***“...long life...”*** = physical consequence

* ***“...peace...”*** = emotional consequence

“A sound heart is the life of the flesh...” Proverbs 14:30a

“...sound...” (Hebrew: Marpe) = Healthy!

Paraphrase: “A (healthy) heart is the life (or health) of the flesh...”

***“THOU will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on THEE...
because he trusts in THEE. Isaiah 26:3***

“...perfect...” (Hebrew: Shalem) = Complete!

“...stayed...” (Hebrew: Samak) = Sustained; supported

“Come unto ME, all you that labor and are heavy laden and I will give rest. Take MY yoke upon you, and learn of ME, for I AM meek and lowly in heart and you shall find rest unto your souls.” Matthew 11:28-29

Application: Notice “The 3 Step Process” (if you will) that JESUS proclaims we must follow before we can receive and experience this “...rest unto (our) souls.” (v.29b)

*** We must “Take (our) yoke upon (us)...” (v.29a)**

“...yoke...” speaks of our responsibilities

Responsibilities for what?

*** We must “...learn of (JESUS CHRIST)...” (v.29b)**

Application: At least in the context of this Series, this means to “...learn of (JESUS CHRIST)...” through the daily study of HIS Word...The Holy Scriptures!

“...learn of...” what about HIM?

*** That HE is “...meek and lowly in heart...” (v.29c)**

“...meek...” (Greek: Praos) = Gentle; mild

“...lowly...” (Greek: Tapeinos) = Humble

Application: Notice that “meekness” and “humility” go together!

Where is this “meekness” and “humility” going to originate?

“...in (our) heart...” and in our mind!

“...to be spiritually minded is life and peace...” Romans 8:6b

**IMMERSING & FILLING OUR MINDS & HEARTS WITH
THE WORD OF GOD – THE HOLY SCRIPTURES THRU...**

**READING – STUDYING – MEMORIZING & MEDITATING
THEREIN...AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!**

Note: Pages 96 & 97 are from accompanying sheets

MY LIFE COMMITMENT

“HEAVENLY FATHER, I have learned from the study of YOUR Word, that soul-sickness, that is, evil and corrupt thinking and reasoning, is a tragic and devastating reality that can afflict anyone. I now realize that unless I follow close to YOU, and diligently seek to live my life according to YOUR Word and ways, I too will suffer these terrible consequences.

However, I have also learned that as I seek to love and obey YOU and YOUR Word with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength, I am promised and assured that YOU will help me to...

‘DEVELOP AND POSSESS A GODLY – HEALTHY MIND’

I now purpose, through YOUR grace and the power and strength of YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, to make those choices of obedience that will make this a reality in my life.

I pray this in The Name of THE LORD JESUS CHRIST and for HIS glory

Amen.”

***Signed* _____ *Date* _____**

