

Theme: OVERCOMING THE BATTLE OF THE MIND

Christians need to grow and be strong. We need strength to grow in spiritual things and get matured. When you love God, you need to know him because Daniel said, "they that know their God shall be strong". [Dan.11 :32] The bible says "my people are destroyed because of lack of knowledge". [Hosea 4:6] We need to know God in order to be strong.

If you loose the battle of the mind, you have lost all but if you win the battle you will be able to overcome. We are not ignorant of the devices of the devil. The greatest harm you can do to yourself is to be ignorant of the devices of the devil.

We are too concerned about what we will eat/wear. When people are not happy, it is with their mind. The problem of people is with the mind. The devil cannot get to your heart without first going through your mind. When you got born again it was your heart that got saved not your mind. You must be careful not to be communicating with the devil through the mind.

When you are communicating with God it is through your heart. When the bible said the devil took up Jesus and began to show him..... it was with the mind not that he [devil] carried him physically. The bible talks about self control – self control begins by you controlling your mind. We must be able to understand that our enemy is aiming at our minds. Your spirit and soul was saved. God had nothing to do with your mind. ***Your mind is an open field where the devil sends thoughts to. Whoever is able to control his mind will be able to overcome the devil but if not, the reverse will be the case.***

Prov.23:7 "As you think so you are. ***Your thought can make or mar (destroy) you. Nobody goes/progresses beyond/above his thought. Your success cannot go beyond your thought.*** Watch whatever somebody does. What some people say with their mouth is different from what they have inside and they just want you to believe a lie.

We must understand that we need to think right and not wrongly. God gave you power to overcome. There are things God ask you to do by yourself and God is never going to help you do it. As far as you are born again you have wrong the devil. As far as you are born again you are not under the control of the devil, you are his enemy and his agents are your enemies.

"Behold I give unto you power.... And nothing shall by any means hurt you" [Luke.10:19] That's what God has said and given unto you. You've got to exercise your authority. No demon is too strong. You have been covered with the blood of Jesus. The bible did not say cover yourself with the blood of Jesus. You are already covered.

A lot of people feel condemn and remain on the ground always praying for forgiveness. Who is condemning and confusing you?, it's not God. It's the devil. God justifies.

Manage your thoughts and make sure you think in line with the scriptures and what God says about you which means, you have to know the word of God and be full of it and apply it as the situation demands. A lot of people lack the knowledge of God's word. What do the leaders teach their flocks? Don't make God a liar. A lot of us have minds that are not renewed; the way you were thinking as an unbeliever is still the way you think – your thoughts are not different.

You need to work on and renew your thoughts. Romans 12:1 – The renewing of your mind from old thoughts and behaviour takes time, it doesn't just take place immediately when you gave your life to Christ. You need to work on your mind as soon as your heart got saved.

When Paul spoke to the Romans Church it was to people who were born again. In order for you not to conform to the world (behave like the world), you should renew your mind by yourself. For example the ideas you have in you as an unbelievers should change. Your mind need to be renewed from the evil way, the old ways of reasoning, and of doing things – being not conformed means that before you gave your life to Christ, you were doing things the way the

world does it, you need to take away the old way of reasoning and bring something new to your life – think and reason differently from the former way (worldly ways).

It is that your old mind that need to change. You shouldn't be thinking along the old ways. Your mind holds your environment. If you think in the old ways, your environment will not change. Do not conform yourself to the standard of this world but let God transform you inwardly by the complete change of your mind. Watch people when they talk what are they saying? It's from the mind. There are lots of Christians that still talk like unbelievers. A true child of God will speak according to the scriptures (quoting God's word). God acts with his word, the devil acts otherwise (with negative speeches).

Stop thinking, reasoning and doing things in the old ways but in God's own ways so that you will see God's promises coming to pass. Live by the word of God. When anything comes to your mind, use the scriptures Jesus is our perfect example. He used the scriptures throughout and the devil fled. [Matthew.4;1-11]

Let God transform you inwardly (your mind). Your mind needs a complete change, it needs help and needs to be renewed. What do you think before going to bed?. What kind of information do you feed your mind with?, check what you watch and listen to.

How do you renew your mind? Phil.4:8.

How many Christians think on things that are true, honest, just pure, lovely and of good report, that have praise and virtue? The word of God is true. These are things God wants us to think on and not otherwise but what do we ponder upon?

You don't need someone else to think all these things for you. Sometimes you wonder at people's character, it's with their mind. Your mind is a place that can be filled – it's like a computer that you can feed. It has memory. Because you did not save the word of God in your memory, when you search for it, you won't get it. What you put in your memory affects you. Your mind is your brain.

Follow the scriptures. Fill your mind with good things because it's what you fill your mind with that returns back to you. Always ask yourself what you have in your mind. If it is not right, pure, good, lovely, honest etc, then knock it out. Ask yourself what your mind and your thought is made up of. Until your ideas change, your environment cannot change.

It's when your mind is renewed that you can conform to the image of his dear son – Jesus Christ. Learn to obey God.

Prayer Points

Go and think on how to renew your mind. How your mind will no longer be under condemnation and control of the devil. Check out the meaning of every word that we have studied here.

Philippians 4:8

This is what you should do. When any thought comes to your mind you must monitor it and see whether what you are thinking is pure, true, holy etc. Don't think on what is not right, think on what is true. This will help you to be free, sane and obtain God's promises.

You may be looking at somebody and you are not seeing that person, it's because your mind is not there. You came to lead and because your mind is not there you loose focus. Watch how people think. If you are a leader and you don't treat God's people well, it's never going to be well with you.

When people come to you with impure thoughts, rightly correct them because if you don't, they leave you injured, down, etc so when someone is saying something to you; monitor it because it can affect you positively or negatively.

Be careful with certain people in the house of God. Good news makes them sad but bad news makes them happy. They will be happy when the church scatters. Don't let people who fellowship with demons discourage you and never subject yourself to them. From today, the thoughts that come to your mind are they pure?

Reject every thought that is not pure, true and scriptural. Reject and take in the word of God. Jesus taught us because he did the same. What you are thinking about, will it glorify God? If not reject it. Don't only reject it, replace it with the word of God. Protect your mind. Rise up and fight; it's a war, battle, it will flee.

Once thoughts through your mind get to your spirit, then you are gone.

2 Cor.10:3-5. Let's recognize who our enemy is. We must understand this fact. Our battle is not with fellow human being. The weapons we use to fight our warfare are not physical but a lot of us despise these weapons. They are tongues (instrument of war to fight), praise, worship etc. The devil preaches to a lot of you and you entertain those messages.

Where do we imagine things? In our mind. Any high thing, thoughts, imagination that is against God's word, cast it down. Don't receive, entertain and ponder on it. Your solution is in God's word. You must subject your mind against every thought, imagination that is against God's word.

If the devil cannot get your mind, he cannot get you, so protect it. Take every thought captive and subject it to obey Christ. When someone is free, happy and goes away, the devil comes but only through the mind and feeding them with ugly thoughts. When people are free, the devil will surely want to come and if the person does not handle his/her mind well, the devil will enter.

The name of Jesus, the blood of Jesus, tongue etc are weapons of our warfare. You use the blood to remind the devil that your sins have been washed away, praise and worship to lift the name of God against the devil. Hold bound every thought and make it to obey Christ. Who will do this for you? By yourself.

When the devil wants to get somebody, he starts from the thoughts. Either he sends a spirit or sends some people to release bad thoughts that weigh you down. Until you begin to do the right thing, fight, using the name and blood of Jesus, you will never be free. Jesus released his blood because of your sins. When you agree to accept condemnation, you are saying that the blood of Jesus is useless and valueless (not valid) but it is very valid.

Jesus told the devil, it is written..... use the scriptures and when you do you are using that sword of the spirit to bring the devil down.

Do you want to be successful?, work on your mind and also help others to renew their minds. Teach. Once you can control your mind, possess it, then you can overcome but when you let the enemy grab hold of it, you loose. Knock out every thought that is against the knowledge of God. If you can do this, you will make it. If you can protect your mind, you will be victorious.