

Fellowship Baptist Church, August 24, 2014—PM

Message: “Think on the Good not the Evil”-- Philippians 4:8

INTRODUCTION: In Philippians 4:8 the subject is thinking on the good not the evil. The last phrase in this verse says, “think on these things”. We need a positive outlook on life. Between the word “finally” and the last phrase there are 8 things for us to think about.

- I. Think on that which is true.
 - A. Pilate asked the Lord, “What is truth?”—John 18:38
 - B. Truth is part of the armor of God —Eph 6:14
 - C. We are to speak in truth.—Eph. 4:25
 - D. We have obeyed the truth.—I Peter 1:22
2. We are to think on honest things (honorable).
 - A. Our conduct is to be honorable.—Rom. 13:13; II Cor. 8:21
 - B. We should be honest in our dealings with others.—I Thess. 4:12; I Peter 2:12
 - C. Honest and a clear conscience go together.—Heb. 13:18
3. Think on that which is just.
 - A. Just is translated by three words—just, meet, right.—Prov 20:7
 - B. Abraham and John the Baptist are examples of just men.
—Gen. 18:19; Mark 6:20
4. Think on that which is pure.
 - A. Pure is translated by three words--- chaste, clean, pure.
 - B. Jesus saved us so we could be a pure people.—Titus 2:14
5. Think on that which is lovely.
 - A. Lovely means that which is acceptable.
 - B. It is described in I Cor. 13.
6. Think on that which is of good report.
 - A. Dwell on the good in others not the evil.
 - B. Look for good in people—don’t think the worse.
7. Think on virtue and praise.
 - A. Look for things to complement people on not things to condemn them.
 - B. Offer praise and encouragement
 - C. Don’t be negative.--“You’ll never do that.” “You can’t accomplish that.” Etc.

CONCLUSION: Don’t think on evil things. If we always look at the evil and bad, we will always be discouraged. Always look at the good and the uplifting. There is too much pessimism and not enough optimism. Don’t cry over spilt milk! Learn from the failures but don’t dwell on them. Move on to victory!