“A NEW MINDSET”

The Ingredient for Obedience

II Corinthians 10: 3-5

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• For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

• (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

• Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

— II Corinth. 10: 3-5

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• **Ingredient** – the putting together of separate elements or parts to form a whole. There are several parts that go into obedience to make it a whole.

• **The element of obedience** - having a new mind set.

• **The mind** - the gateway to our soul and our spirit.
  – anything that controls or dominates the mind will guide one’s destiny.

“For as man thinks in his heart so is he.”

(Prov. 23:7)

• **Thinketh** - Hebrew word *shar’ar* meaning to act as a gate keeper.
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• The gate was a place of controlled access to a walled city.

• There are two gates for anything to enter our minds:
  (1) eyes
  (2) ears

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Why is a change of mind necessary?

– We will not obey the word of God without a transformed mind.

– In the word of God we find a wonderful combination of the **human** and the **divine**.

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HUMAN

– Anyone who has a good mind can understand the meaning of words and the truth contained in them.

– This is all that can be done in the power of human understanding.

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DIVINE

• However, there is a divine side in which the Holy Spirit expresses His deepest thoughts to us.

• We cannot understand them or comprehend them, for they are spiri\-tually discerned.

• Only through the Holy Spirit can the Christian apply the divine truths contained in God words.

  – Because God has reveal them to us by the spirit: for the spirit search all things, yea the deep things of God.

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• For what man knows the thing of a man save the spirit of the man which is in him?

• Even so the things of God knows no man, but the spirit of God. Now we have not received, the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things freely given to us of God.

• Which things we speak not in words which man’s wisdom teaches; but which the holy Spirit teaches; comparing spiritual things with spiritual (word).

• But the natural man received not the things of the spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him neither can he know them, because they are spiritual discerned

(I Corinth. 2: 10-14).
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• But he that is spiritual judged all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For he hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the **mind of Christ** (1 Corinth. 2: 15-16).

• We have the **mind of Christ** and his understanding, his plans, his opinions and his judgment and so on.

• There is a battle for our minds to take control and guide our destiny.

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Where did the battle begin?

• In the Garden
• Satan went after the mind of Adam and Eve through deception, using the **two gates:**
  1. eyes
  2. ears
• Satan started talking to the woman and said “...for God does know that in the day you eat thereof (tree) that your eyes will be opened and ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil.”

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Where did the battle begin?

- And when the woman saw .... Notice he spoke to her ear gate and she heard him and responded by seeing that it look pleasant to her eyes and it became her desire.

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Where did the battle begin?

• When Satan discovered that his tools worked on man, he began using his tools to entice man to disobey God.

• If Satan can get man to disobey God he could change his destiny.

• The battle ground was formed to either:

  (1) Obey God and fulfill our destiny or

  (2) Disobey God and lose out

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Notice how Satan approaches us:

– God is asking me for something I cannot do
– I just cannot do it this way
– They act like I do not have a mind of my own
– I have the Holy Spirit just like they do

• Satan’s plan is to change our destiny by getting us to disobey God’s word.

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• The first Adam’s destiny was changed because he listened to Satan.
• There were two trees in the garden. The second tree was the tree of life where he could have eaten and lived forever.
• Adam listened to Satan and disobeyed God. His destiny was changed forever.
• But God so loved us that he sent a second Adam, Jesus Christ, who obeyed all that God sent him to do.

• The devil tried Jesus three times to disobey God’s word.
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• Satan first tried Jesus at the end of his forty day fast. “If you are who you say you are then turn these stones to bread.”

• Jesus answered what is written in God’s word. “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”

— Matthew 4: 1-4

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• The second time the Devil tried Jesus through pride.

• “If you are who you say you are, cast your self down because it is written. for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.”

• Satan also uses the scripture to deceive us.

• Remember, there is a human interpretation and

• a divine.

• Jesus said it written thou shall not tempt the Lord thy God.

  — Matthew 4: 5-6

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• The third deception, Satan took Jesus up to a higher mountain to show him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.

• “I will give you all of these if you will worship me.” (Sight - Eyes)

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• Jesus rebuked him by saying, “Get these behind me Satan: for it is written thou shall worship the Lord thy God and him only shall you serve.”

• The victory in each of Jesus’ aspect of temptation is related to his use of the scripture, his source of strength and his obedience to the Father’s will.

— Matthew 4: 8-10

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The Battle in Our Mind is About Making Right Choices

– Deut. 30: 19 “This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.”

• Life is about making choices, and right choices depend on the information that we receive.
• What we hear and see creates the way we think. This can become our “Philosophy of Life” (the system of values by which we live) and these value influences our decision.

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The Battle in Our Mind is About Making Right Choices

• The Bible says “... let this mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who being in the found in the fashion of as a man humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”

• If there is no renewal of the mind it will be hard for us to be obedient.

• We are told in the book of Roman 12:1-3 to transform our minds so that we can know the will of God.

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• How does transforming works?
  – By practice using the Word of God daily.

• For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good (Titus 2: 1-14).

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The Battle in Our Mind is About Making Right Choices

• Judas was one who was around the word of God but not in the word.
• Because the word did not get in him, he betrayed Christ.

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The Battle in Our Mind is About Making Right Choices

- When we refuse to obey the word of God we are setting ourselves up for difficult times.
- Since we are the sum total of our thoughts, if we believe that we are unable to change, we will not change.
- If we believe we have no power to change we won’t use the power we have to make a change. As a man thinks in his heart so is he.

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The Battle in Our Mind is About Making Right Choices

• This the first ingredient to obedience is a renewed mind.
• Don’t allow the devil to captivate your thoughts.
• Old things have passed away and all things are become new.
• We are new creatures.
• Let’s act like it!

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