“Be Transformed by Renewing Your Mind”

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

Introduction:
The mind is the leader and forerunner of all action. Our actions are a direct result of our thoughts. If we think the world’s thoughts influenced by the world’s system concerning family relationships, friendships, ourselves, or money, health and how to spend our time; we will get the world’s results—“the wages of sin is death” and Being Good is Not Enough.

If, on the other hand, we renew our mind according to God’s Word in these 6 areas, we will prove out in our experience “the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Prayer:

Content:
The mind is one of three parts of the soul; the others are the will of a person and his emotions. So the Soul is made up of the mind, will and emotions, just as a human being is comprised of the Spirit, Soul and Body.

It is in the Mind, and with the Will that the devil wages the battle for the soul of a man; control of our mind, our will and our emotions.

Ephesians 6:12 says:
“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.”

1 Corinthians 10:3:6 tells us:
“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 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; 6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.”
If the devil can control our mind he can get us to “act out” in our body which leads to the destruction of our spirit.

So when we talk about saving souls, we are talking about the renewing of minds.

Let’s talk about these things…

Point #1 - We’ll take an often quoted scripture about the heart of a man and read it from back to front.

“Eat and drink saith he to thee but his heart is not with thee. For as he thinketh in his heart so is he. Eat thou not the bread of him that hath as evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats.”

Scripture References:
“Eat thou not the bread of him that hath as evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats. For as he thinketh in his heart so is he: Eat and drink saith he to thee but his heart is not with thee.”
Proverbs 23:6-7

Is the meaning clearer?

Let’s do likewise with our base scripture.

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

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

“Be not conformed to this world
transformed by the renewing of your mind
prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

1 Ptr1:14,
Acts 17:30
Eph 1:17, 18,
Eph 5:10, 17

do you understand it better?

Renew Your Mind by Meditating on the Word!

Point #2 - Let’s talk about Meditation – This is what Webster's says concerning a few related words:

Meditate is: to engage in contemplation or reflection, to focus one's thoughts on: reflect or ponder over. To plan or project in the mind
Think is: to form or have in the mind, to have as an opinion, to regard as or consider, to reflect on or ponder, to determine by reflecting, to call to mind or remember, to center ones thoughts on or form a mental picture of, to have in the mind engaged in reflection, to consider.
Reflect is: to think quietly and calmly
Ponder is: to weigh in the mind, to think about, reflect on, to think about - esp quietly, soberly and deeply.

Biblical Meditation hand out –

Meditation grows Faith.
If your faith is weak - your mind will be weak - causing your walk to be weak.

Meditation is God’s primary way of having the believer to transform his thinking.

Scripture Reference:
Philippians 4:8-9

8 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.
9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. (Col 3:1-3)

What does this mean?

Point #3 - Meditation is the means by which we envision God’s word coming to pass in our lives. Examples?

Scripture Reference:
Joshua 1:1-9

1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ minister, saying,
2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. A Command and a Promise.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. 5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. A Promise.

6 Be strong and of a good courage: A Command

for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. A Promise
Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest. This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein.  

A Command

for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.  

A Promise

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.  

A Command and a Promise

Point #4 - What a man believes is where he will end up. What he continues to feed on physically, mentally and spiritually is what he will produce. In the account above, where did Joshua end up?

Scripture Reference:
Matthew 12:33-35
33 Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit. 34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things

Point #5 The mirror exercise.
When you look in a mirror do you change the mirror to fit what you want to see? Or do you change what you see in the mirror to look better, more correct and acceptable?

Scripture Reference:
James 1:22-26
22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

In Closing:
Turn in your Bible to Proverbs 3:5-7. Now hold it up to your face like a mirror and read the scripture out loud. Now read Matthew 6:15. And finally Ephesians 6:10-11

Now, what are you going to do, try to change the mirror, or change the man.

Gentlemen, this is being Transformed by Renewing your mind.

This is Meditating in the Scriptures.
Putting the Lord and His Word **1st place** in your life is what will make a man out of you.”

Psalm 119:9 -12

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee. 12 Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.

The Word is not given to us to make sense, it is given to us to make **FAITH**!

**Let’s Pray:**