R12.2 February 2022 Blog

The Importance of Our Minds – Part 2 of 2

From the last blog: The Greek word νοὸς occurs 24 times in the NT. Most of the occurrences are in Paul's letters. D.J. Moo, in his 2018 Book, "*The Letter to the Romans*", says, "'Mind' translates a word that Paul uses to connote a person's "practical reason," or "moral consciousness."

Here are some of the functions of my mind:

- Reasoning—involves discerning, discriminating, evaluating cause/effect relationships, understanding, choosing
- Thinking
- Evaluating right and wrong with my conscience
- Remembering
- Evaluating sensory inputs
- Feeling/emotions
- Interface between my soul and God

After spending 11 chapters in Romans criticizing and lamenting their sins, Paul states the remedy for their problem is Christ rescue. He then says,

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, pleasing to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God.

Anytime you see "therefore", turn up your pay-attention level.

What does it mean to you to "be transformed by the renewing of your mind"?

Conclusion: Christianity is a belief of the mind. Let us not forget, the functioning of our spiritual and physical health is mostly found in the proper use and development of our mind. What does transformed mean to you? How do you begin being "transformed into the image of Christ"?

Have you ever experience being transformed at anything or level? What must you do to be transformed mentally? In Jesus' teaching, it starts with renewing your mind in the Word. Transformed to an Electrical Engineer means changing direct current into AC.

The entire Bible spends a lot of time on the management, health, and nourishment of our mind. We spend a lot of time on conditioning and preparing our body. How is your discipline and development of your mind going? In the spiritual, it means changing the worldly man to a "new person".

Review this short list out of Romans (only a sample) of verses concerning the mind and evaluate and grade where you are with your mind:

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not think fit to have God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do the things not right,

Rom 7:23 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 being in my members.

Rom 7:25 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.

Rom 8:7 because the carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the Law of God, neither indeed can be

Rom 8:27 And He searching the hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will God.

Rom 15:6 so that with one mind and one mouth you may glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And one sample from the OT: Isa 26:3 "You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You; because he trusts in You."

As the old saying goes, "what we think in our mind, we will be".

Application:

1. Think, how much you spend "renewing your mind". Probably very little, I tend to spend more time entertaining my mind. Watching football and watching the news is not renewing your mind. My mind tends to atrophy in the TV instead of growing and maturing in Christ. What are your biblical regimens? Do you have a quiet time, study time, memorization of the scriptures or discussing your thinking with some brothers?

2. What is a reprobate mind? If you suffer this problem, what are you doing to straighten this out? Who is looking over your soul? (Accountability partner)

3. What is the law of the mind? Are you on top of this issue?

4. Do I have the law of God? What is it in my mind? We get the law of God from the Word and our affiliations.

5. What enmity is a carnal mind? What was at enmity against God? What does it mean to be at enmity against God? Do I have a carnal mind? And what am I doing about it?

6. Is the Holy Spirit active in my mind and life? If not, why not and am I trying to engage the Holy Spirit more in my life?

7. Do I have “vanity of their mind “. Am I arrogant about my education or learning achievements or learning skills? Do I show off my God given mental talents. Just remember the more you get from God the more responsible you are to him.

8. Do I have the mind of Christ.?

9. What are you doing to bring your mind under control in accordance with your status as a child of God?

Check List of items-outward signs of inward truths

a. language

b. physical habits

c. what my eyes dwell on?

d. reading items

e. drinking habits

f. Television hours per day and what stations do I watch

g. Movies you see

h. Reading list for the coming year