

Refusing to Think

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7

It occurs to me that people who live iniquitous lives tend not to spend much time thinking; the experience is too painful. Most of us cannot think on the past without regret, and the more acute the regret the greater the temptation to fill one's life with distractions so as not to have to think.

So too, most arguments in the body of Christ flow from disagreements regarding doctrine rather than moral issues. Because biblical commands are unambiguous, and because conscience affirms most moral absolutes, the reprobate may plead for tolerance, but rarely does he seek to defend that which his conscience condemns.

Professing Christians who live (or have lived) immoral lives, therefore, tend to embrace those practices derived from tradition rather than serious reflection on Scripture, such as praying to icons and insisting on experience-centered worship. The deeper a man thinks on biblical truth, the more aware he becomes of his depravity, and if his sins prove too painful to contemplate, he ceases thinking, fills his life with activity, giving his allegiance to those doctrines taught in his church.

Paul offers the antidote to this happening: "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." The "things" referred to by Paul are found in Scripture. To the degree that you meditate on the Word of God, He will deliver you from a vacuous, sinful life.

¹ Philippians 4:8