

RENEWING THE MIND

EPH 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

ROM 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Your “reasonable service” (v.1b) means “spiritual service”. Those that want to covenant with God for spiritual service must present (offer) their bodies. If a man joins the army; the new recruit must obey instructions and offer his body in service.

The Greek word for “transformed” is “transfigured”. In the same way that Jesus was transfigured with light before the disciples, our mind can be transfigured with His Word. This process begins when we choose not to follow the “world”.

“Acceptable” means “well-pleasing”

Three wills of God: 1) “Good will”
2) “Acceptable will” and
3) “Perfect will”

Often the “born again” believer has received God’s nature into his spirit, but his mind is still thinking the “old man” thoughts. This person is still governed by sense knowledge and is ruled by the things of this world.

Senses versus the Spirit:

1 COR 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

The “new creation spirit” is waiting to be related to a renewed mind. However the “old man” is still in possession of a “carnal mind” even though he is in possession of a “new created spirit”.

Romans chapter six teaches us about the new creation of man’s spirit (Rom 6:12-14)

ROM 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments

of unrighteousness unto sin: but **yield yourselves unto God**, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 **For sin shall not have dominion over you:** for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

The body must be subject (yielded) to our “new spirit” which was recreated in the “new man”. (Eph 4:24)

EPH 4:24 And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

The New Birth

Immediately after a person is “born again” his inner man may not naturally desire union with the recreated spirit now in fellowship with the Father. The mind of man comes to a cross-road. On which pathway do I proceed? The reading of the Word of God will help when it is time to make decisions.

1Co 6:11 And such were some of you: **but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus**, and by the Spirit of our God.

Eph 5:26 That he might **sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,**

TIT 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, **by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;**

The Word will wash the mind creating a “renewed state of mind”.

The Word will give us the ability to put on the new man. (Col 3:10)

COL 3:10 **And have put on the new man**, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Gal 5:19 Now **the works of the flesh** are manifest, which are *these*;

The Greek word meaning for “flesh” is “senses”.

The mind where the word of God flows richly is a mind which will become renewed.

Acts 19:20 **So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.**

When the Word of God is allowed to increase and prevail, it will overcome and defeat the works of the flesh. We will naturally follow the best outcome

We are called to fellowship with Christ. (1Cor 1:9)

EPH 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you **the spirit of wisdom and revelation** in the knowledge of him: 18**The eyes of your understanding** being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what **the riches of the glory of his inheritance** in the saints,

God's desire is that our recreated inner man or (our spirit) sees as His spirit sees. (Eph 1:18)

Our spirit may need to engage in the battle to take the high ground. We can do this by continued periods of fasting.

David said, "Who shall ascend". Ascension of our spirit (inner man) is what God is all about. Thinking and meditation on God will set the mind free to worship. This continued worship in the Spirit without interruption will ultimately bring us into the awesomeness of His glory.

ACT 26:16 "But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, **to make thee a minister** and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; "17"**Delivering thee from the people,** and *from* the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, " 18"**To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light,** and *from* the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Saul heard the words "Turn them from darkness". The darkness of man is always the natural; it is the inability to see God. It speaks of sense knowledge, sense orientation and dominion. This darkness is what the unbeliever is bound to. Having turned to the light of Christ (in salvation), the darkness of soul is distinguished.

EPH 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, **but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:**

1 JN 1 Walk in the light as He is in the Light.

1 JN 2:8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: **because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.**

John states that the darkness of yesterday has past. For in Christ we have all that we need to dispel the darkness of sin. The light of God empowers us to live and think as Christ.

The man with “sense orientation” is changed into a man with “spirit orientation”. All believers should occasionally examine themselves to see that the old “sense man” is indeed “passing away”. Once the “sense man” is deceased the “spirit man” is ready to receive “revelation knowledge”.

COL 1:13-14 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: 14In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

EPH 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

2 COR 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves; but **our sufficiency is of God;**

6Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Eph 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, **that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.**

Eph 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according to the power that worketh in us,**

PHIL 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Those walking in faith speak with a different confession. “I can do all things”, for Christ is my ability, He is my sufficiency, His power is at work in us.

ISA 41:10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: **I will strengthen** thee; yea, **I will help** thee; yea, **I will uphold** thee with the right **hand** of my righteousness.

Here we see the three “I Wills” of God that cancels fear. “I will strengthen”; “I will help”; and “I will uphold”.

ROM 5:5 Because the love of God is shed abroad **in our hearts** by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

“Heart” synonymous with “spirit”

We must remember that the Father’s love and nature is in our spirit.

We carry the character of His Word in our spirits. (1 Cor 1:30) This verse declares we are joined to His wisdom, righteousness, sanctification.