

Lesson 27 –The Book of Romans

Paul encourages us to be renewed in our minds.

We are encouraged to be transformed from the inside – out. It is best for us to understand that the mind is the control center of our attitudes, thoughts, feelings and actions.

In **Ephesians 4; 22-23** Paul encourages us to “put off” the old man concerning our conduct. In other words, as you would take off your coat, we are to put off the old man (this is referring to our old self) which is being corrupted (daily attacks from the world around us) and is deceiving us through our natural desire for things (lusts) and to be renewed in the spirit of our minds (which have to do with the Spirit of God and His righteousness).

And that we “put on” the new man (self) which is after what God is after which are His creation of righteousness and holiness.

Paul uses the word “conversation” which is translated as conduct or behavior. It is important to note here that this is a continual process. It is not done once and forgotten, it is a daily struggle we all face. Continually let our minds be renewed...

Beloved, this is what walking in the salvation of God is all about. We are constantly being “saved” (delivered) through the renewing of our minds.

Again, Paul reminds us in **2nd Corinthians 10: 3-6** the following: *for though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (that is they are not what we would deem as sticks, stones, vocabulary, arguing etc.) but are “mighty through God, to the pulling down of strong holds.*

Now notice that He is talking about our thinking process next. We are to “cast down imaginations” Here we are dealing with the thought process that takes place in our minds. Cast them down – don’t reason with them, don’t argue with them, don’t entertain any of their beliefs, cast them down. Throw them to the ground, remove them from your thinking. We are then told to measure these thoughts against what God has said because they are contrary to His thinking, and bring those thoughts into captivity to what God has said.

Now, having cast down these imaginations, bring the thought process into line with what God has said.

Old Testament example - In the book of **Judges, chapter 6 and verse 11** we find Gideon threshing wheat in the wine press **at night** (because He was hiding it from the Midianites for fear of his life) when the Angel of the Lord appeared to him and said: “The Lord is with you, *you mighty man of valor*”

I can just imagine what Gideon thought “wonder who he is talking to, certainly not me” Yea you Gideon, you mighty man of valor.

The angel tells Gideon he is going to save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. "Come on man, you must be talking to the wrong guy, *My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.*"

Nevertheless, I will be with you as you go.

We remember from **Romans 4:17** that "God calls things which do not exist as though they did.

I take some pleasure in reading further on Gideon, who still had a problem with what God had said, when he asks for further proof that he will actually bring deliverance to his people Israel. Gideon then asks for a sign from the Angel and lays a fleece before the Lord. Read about it in **Judges 6: 15-21**

Bring those thought into obedience of Christ Gideon. He says concerning us, that we can do **All Things**, through our relationship with Christ.

Fearful of the future – God says; **1st Peter 5:7** casting all of your cares on Him, for He cares for you.

In **Matthew 6:25** & following it says; "*do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on, Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not more valuable than they?*"

Be anxious for Nothing - Take no thought about tomorrow - The promises of God are Yea and amen. Find rest to your souls - My burden is light – The peace I give to you is not the same as the world gives - Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not be afraid, let the peace of the Lord rule your hearts, since you are members of His body - God will never let the righteous be shaken - Let His peace guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus – Worry not about tomorrow, each day has enough trouble of its own – even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil for thou are with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me – submit all your ways unto Him, He is directing your path. If God be for us, who can be against us. I will strengthen you; I will uphold you, fear not for I am with you. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Let your mind be renewed with these promises today.

www.TomMorrisonGodcast.com