



Dr. M. Ruth Thomas

## Spiritual Awakening – Mindset February 2024

(All Scriptures are taken from The Amplified Bible, unless noted.)

I want to share the importance and impact of mindset. There is a fixed mindset and an enlargement mindset. Our mindset determines our response to life. It will cause a believer to grow in Christ or be stagnant, thinking they are in Christ – otherwise called “delusion.”

**Isaiah 55:8-9** – <sup>(8)</sup> For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord. <sup>(9)</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

**Matthew 15:6-9** – <sup>(6)</sup> So for the sake of your tradition (the rules handed down by your forefathers), you have set aside the Word of God [depriving it of force and authority and making it of no effect]. <sup>(7)</sup> You pretenders [hypocrites]! Admirable and truly did Isaiah prophesy of you when he said: <sup>(8)</sup> These people draw near Me with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts hold off and are far away from Me. <sup>(9)</sup> Uselessly do they worship Me, for they teach as doctrines the commands of men.

I have taught spiritual enlargement because that is what God wants for us. I found this definition for enlargement: to enlarge is to make bigger, expand, extend, grow, increase, build up, magnify, deepen, heighten, and stretch beyond limits.

A believer can learn God’s ways and thoughts when there is an enlarged mindset instead of a fixed mindset. As it was with the Pharisees in the Bible, it is with us today. We struggle to receive teaching that is not what we have believed – fixed! And the truth is, we will never know God and walk intimately with Him with a fixed mindset. Please take a moment to look at the words that define enlargement. I experience that many who believe in Christ Jesus practically refuse to open their minds to see things differently.

Many men and women of God have gone before me who obeyed God’s voice to awaken His people. They faced people with a fixed mindset. Our Lord faced it - Apostle Paul experienced the same in his ministry. I recently learned that in Evangelist Billy Graham’s last message, he pleaded with the church to wake up. In addition, his daughter made the same plea during his funeral.

How can one authentically worship someone whom they do not know? If we believe wrong, we will build wrong. A believer must learn to adapt to grow in Christ – to learn His ways and thoughts. **Webster's Dictionary** defines adapt as to make fit or suitable by changing or adjusting; to adjust (oneself) to new or changed circumstances. God has given us the ability to adapt, but we must be thirsty and hungry to learn His ways and thoughts.

I pray that the eyes of your heart be flooded with light so that you will seek God with the intent to know and walk with Him. I pray you will choose to have an enlarged mindset.

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