

Your Name

Teacher Name

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Living Above the Level of Mediocrity Excerpts

Mediocrity germinates in the fallen Eden of the mind. Every compromised seed of thought sown or dropped in the brain's gray furrows gestates silently, awaiting a springtime opportunity at new life. There it will sprout to full bloom and reproduce after its kind—yielding labyrinths of thistles and thorns and choking vines that reach into every corner, touch every thought, every feeling, every attitude.

For the mind is not fallow ground but fertile soil. If nurtured, it will bring forth orchards of fruit; if neglected, acres of frustration.

So, if we are ever to rise above mediocrity, we must first cultivate our minds. If we don't they will become brier patches of tangled, destructive thoughts. Instead of becoming captive to Christ, our thoughts will run rampant; choking out anything good that has ever been planted. And Satan will claim the territory by virtue of squatter's rights.

For this reason we remember Ephesians 6:11-12: "Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."