

Ephesians 4:17-24

17This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, **18**Having the understanding darkened, **being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:** **19**Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. **20**But ye have not so learned Christ; **21**If so be that ye have heard him, **and have been taught by him**, as the truth is in Jesus: **22**That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; **23****And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;** **24**And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

We see above that our understanding is darkened which **alienates from the life of God** through ignorance, which is lack of knowledge and understanding. Also because of the blindness of their heart. And because of these things----- are ---- past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Proverbs 1

1The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

2To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

3To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

6To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

7The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

The last thing we want is to be alienated from the life of God ---- and it's because of the blindness of our heart that this will happen. If we don't understand Gods ways -----if we are ignorant -----it is because our heart is not right --- perhaps we are more concerned with staying as we are-----not interested at heart with what God says. At heart other things are more important!

proverbs 2

1My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;

2So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, *and* apply thine heart to understanding;

3Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, *and* liftest up thy voice for understanding;

4If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as *for* hid treasures;

5Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

6For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth *cometh* knowledge and understanding.

7He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: *he is* a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

8He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

9Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; *yea*, every good path.

10When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;

proverbs 3

13Happy *is* the man *that* findeth wisdom, and the man *that* getteth understanding.

14For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.

15She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.

7Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

5Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

2 Corinthians 2:11

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

How does Satan get advantage over us? -----because of our ignorance and lack of knowledge and understanding ----- **He takes advantage of this and alienates us from the LIFE OF GOD!**

Why are we ignorant? because of the blindness of our heart! Other things are more important to us perhaps. Our heart is not set on God alone! We don't care enough to seek out wisdom knowledge and understanding and the LIFE OF GOD. Other things are more important!

Perhaps we don't understand what is at stake! why would other things be more important to us than KNOWING GOD ----when we know that this life ---- around 70 years --- comes to an end and then eternal life. Why would we allow our heart to be drawn to other things? what is our hope?

Titus 1:2

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; Is our hope in this world---in the things of this world? or in eternal life. Life with GOD FOR ETERNITY. Where is our heart. What have we decided in our minds to place as important in our hearts?

1 corinthians 13:13

13And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity.

We know a lot about faith and charity(love) but where is our hope? Is it in this world which lasts a very very very short time even if we live to one hundred years! Or is our hope found in God. Where is our heart set ---- what have we decided to make the most important thing? What is one hundred years compared to eternity? We are a new creation! born again in the heavens. Our hope is an eternal hope, not a temporary one! So where should our heart be? where should our focus be?

Let us not be ignorant -----Let us not be alienated from the LIFE of God----- through ignorance! Because of the blindness of our Heart! Let us choose Life and life eternal through wisdom knowledge and understanding (gained by knowing Jesus) and reading his word. By using our minds to choose to make these things the most important things in our hearts. WHAT IS OUR HOPE?

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

If we hope in heaven and in eternal life and in GOD ---the things of this world will fade away. If we diligently seek God he will reward us. If our heart is set on God our treasure will be wisdom and knowledge and understanding - our HOPE will be in eternal life and in God and in relationship and knowing him.

2 Corinthians 4:18

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

If our hope is set on the things in this world how can our heart be NOT BLIND.

When we realize what is more important by the use of our mind we can then set our heart to desire GOD and to escape the lusts of this world.

Galatians 5:24

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

1 Peter 1:14

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

Romans 6:12

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

1 Peter 4:2

That he no longer should live the rest of *his* time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

Romans 13:14

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.

1 Peter 2:11

Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Mark 4:19

And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

2 Timothy 2:22

Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

How do we escape the lusts of this world? ---- **By having our hope in GOD --- by having our hope in eternity. How can we seek the Lord diligently if our heart is set on other things ?**

Let us choose what is important **SET OUR HEART RIGHT-----put our hope in the right place!**

Psalms 27:8

When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

SET OUR HEART RIGHT HOPE IN GOD in LIFE ETERNAL

Romans 12:2

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.

Once we have set our heart right - the battle ---- the war ---- will turn to our minds as satan tries to draw us back to lust after carnal things ----- things of this world ----- to worry about things that are temporal -- to have us lose our HOPE and alienate us from the life of GOD. He will constantly attempt to implant thoughts in our mind to the extent we allow him to. And he will use all the lusts and the things that are important to us, IN OUR HEARTS to tempt us back to those things. So the lusts in our hearts that remain will be what he tries to draw us back to. Things that are in our hearts that are against the knowledge of God.

1 John 2:16

For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

If our **heart is after God**, it will be **easier to recognize the devil** implanting thoughts, lusts and accusations in our minds. When we learn to recognize it is the Devil **and not us** that is thinking this way ----- we can go to war against him! ----satan wants to sneak his thoughts into us and have us believe they are ours!-----so we blame ourselves ----- Jesus has provided everything we need! Our awesome Lord has put him under our feet. **The battle is to be able to discern him doing it ----- ! to catch him in the act!** then **deal with him** using Gods word----- **because we are not ignorant!** We have set our hearts to seek wisdom knowledge and understanding. Because the Holy Spirit is giving us discernment of our thoughts----- through relationship with him----- as we read his word and listen to him(the still quiet voice) as we walk through our day. When we discern the devil implanting thoughts in our minds we can catch him!

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5 “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments & every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”

Notice the battle is in the mind. The battle is not carnal (fleshly) our weapons are mighty IN GOD ---- so mighty through faith ----- notice: we need to cast down **arguments** and every high thing that **exalts itself** -----against the **KNOWLEDGE** of God. **satan is attacking our mind!** he wants us to agree with his thoughts and lusts and fears and worry and unforgiveness and hurts and resentments and complaints to take our HEARTS AWAY FROM GOD!

ASK GOD FOR DISCERNMENT-----we have not because we ask not

ASK GOD FOR WISDOM KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING AND A HEART THAT IS AFTER HIM

ASK GOD TO MAKE HIS DESIRES YOUR DESIRES ASK THAT HE SET YOUR HEART RIGHT AND GIVE YOU HOPE IN ETERNAL THINGS

ASK FOR DISCERNMENT OF GOOD THOUGHTS AND EVIL THOUGHTS.

Once we recognize the enemy we can defeat him!

Ephesians 1:15-23

15Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,

16Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; **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, **19**And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, **20**Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, **21**Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **22**And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, **23**Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

How awesome---- we are in Jesus body -----we are part of his body ---- the body of Christ ---- we have this same power to us-ward who believe and we find that **ALL THINGS** are under our feet! If we discern the devil in our minds WE CAN NOW REBUKE HIM! WE HAVE AUTHORITY OVER HIM! JESUS DEFEATED HIM ALREADY!

LUKE 10:19-20

19Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. **20**Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

So as we learn to discern our thoughts and **their origin** The LORDS' ----OURS' -----or the devils ----- **If our heart is set on the Lord** ---- we know evil thoughts are coming from the devil! HE BECOMES EASY TO DISCERN. He wants us to believe HIS EVIL THOUGHTS are ours. Don't agree with evil thoughts that exalt themselves against the knowledge of GOD. RESIST the thought submit/surrender it to the Lord and rebuke that devil and command that devil to go to the Lord for judgement!

We do this by faith !

Hebrews 11:6

6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*:

So as we cast that devil out of our mind and refuse the thoughts, and keep their foul thoughts from entering our hearts ----- we exercise our faith also **which is what pleases God !** We also take dominion over our thoughts and begin the renewal of our minds!

Romans 12:1-2

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*.

___ Recognize the devil in your mind ----recognize his thoughts ----- his lies ----his deceptions----- If your **heart** is set on the LORD JESUS CHRIST he becomes easier to discern.

GALATIANS 5:16-26

16This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **17**For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. **18**But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. **19**Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness,

lasciviousness, **20**Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21**Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. **22**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **23**Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. **24**And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

25If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **26**Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

If it's not the fruit of the Spirit-----**recognize who it is** ----- and let us exercise our faith!

Praise God,

Father I thank you for this message and pray that all who hear this message be filled with the spirits of knowledge wisdom and understanding and be given all discernment and the provision to recognize the enemy working in our minds. I pray that our desires are set on eternal things and not on things that pass away. I pray that your desires become our desires. I pray that you give each of us faith to take dominion over our thoughts and minds and hearts through your Holy Spirit and that our hearts desire is YOU. We submit and surrender our thoughts and hearts into your Love Jesus and thank you for your awesome blessings.

You ARE an AWESOME GOD, we praise you,thank you and give you glory

amen