

The Renewing of Our Mind

Introduction

Romans 12:1-2

1. Our quality of life is determined by the quality of our thinking.
2. We can make drastic changes in our life simply by changing our minds.
3. The truth of God's word is the most powerful source we have for positive change in the world.
 - A. However – one must choose to be influenced by it.
4. Christians are described as those "who were once enlightened."
Hebrews 6:4-6
5. But even after obeying the gospel, we are challenged to "renew" our mind continually.

Conformed Versus Transformed

1. If a Christian does not study, basically doing nothing, then one will gradually be “conformed” to the world.
 - A. Being “transformed” requires a conscious effort on our part (action), that produces a change within us.
2. It is a fact that conformity to the world is the course of least resistance.
1 Corinthians 15:33
3. Many Christians today are probably more conformed to the world than we may realize or perhaps are willing to admit.
4. It is very important that every Christian set a goal of transformation to the Lord’s way of thinking in all aspects of life.

Transformation is the Result of A “Renewed” Mind

1. In order for a Christian to truly live godly in this world, there must be an inward change of heart.
2. The “mind” = intellect + emotions + will.
 - A. Each one of these must be placed under the influence of the truth of God’s Word – His will for us.
3. “Spirituality” – Spiritual mindedness (as opposed to carnal mindedness) has to be our ultimate goal.
Romans 8:5-11 Ephesians 4:17-24 1 John 2:15-17
4. A true Christian no longer views things and appraises them “according to the flesh”
2 Corinthians 5:16

The Result

- **"PROVING"** what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God
1. To "prove" is to scrutinize or test to see if something is genuine; to judge worthy.
 2. A carnal-minded person is a poor judge between right and wrong actions.
Ephesians 5:8-10,17
 - A. CHART:
 - [John 7:17](#)
 - [1 Corinthians 3:1-3](#)
 - [Hebrews 5:11-14](#)
 - [2 Peter 3:16](#)
 - B. As an analogy, consider an individual who dislikes baseball trying to judge the better of two baseball teams.
 3. A person who has been "transformed" by the renewing of the mind is not only better able to discern God's will, but can also properly appraise the excellence of it.
Romans 2:18-20

Philippians 1:10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,
 4. The person with a "renewed" mind learns a lot by actual experience in the daily living of God's truth.
1 Peter 2:2-3
 5. The Christian's life is a demonstration of the truth. Proof that God's truth "works" in their daily life!

Conclusion

1. The renewal of the Christian's mind is a continual, daily process.
2. Transformation is not an easy process.
 - A. The more we allow the world to be ingrained in us, the more difficult it will be to change.
 - 1) To stay in our own "comfort zone" is to be lost.
3. What we are truly after is to have the "mind of Christ."

Philippians 2:3-5 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. **Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,**

4. May we all strive to truly have our treasures be in heaven, so that our hearts may be there also.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Colossians 3:2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

