

## THINK BIBLICALLY

(Romans 12:2)

...A number of years ago there was a TV ad that promoted college by saying, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."  
Yet, many of us as Christians have less than a "Christian Mind" because we have allow ourselves to be pressed into thinking like the godless men and women that surround us.

...Our minds are a gift from God. If you are saved, then God has given you a new nature, a new heart within. As you offer your body as a living sacrifice to the Lord, do forget to give the Lord your mind. You are to think Biblically, remembering that ideas have their consequences. If you think like a Christian, you will live like one. (Vice versa)

### TWO COMMANDS DIRECTING OUR THOUGHT LIFE AS BELIEVERS, AS WE OFFER OUR BODIES AS LIVING SACRIFICES.

...For it is true in life, the battle for godliness is in the mind. Don't waste your mind! Resist!!!!

#### I. **A Negative: Stop Allowing The Pressure Of Our Godless World To Mold Your Thinking.** "do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world."

- A. Paul uses the word "conformed."
  - 1. This word is the word from which we get "scheme." This is an outward pressure that attempts to pattern us. It is the pressure we feel exerted upon us to conform...to the world's way of thinking and behaving.  
...the word itself implies an outward fashioning that does not reflect what is within.  
It can refer to masquerading as something you are not.
  - 2. We are commanded stop masquerading as a worldly person.
- B. Paul tells us that it is the godless worldly mind set that we are to resist.
  - 1. The word he uses here is not *Cosmos*, rather it is the word for "age." It seems that each age produces it own anti-God thought patterns.
  - 2. What are some common worldly ways of thought found in our day?
    - a. He is not speaking about the "dirty dozen." (smoking, drinking, etc)
    - b. Rather, it is thinking about life as the world does. How?
      - ...Secularism: a way of thinking that only looks at the here and now, and operates as if this age is all there is. Example: Carl Sagan.
      - ...Humanism: This is a way of thinking that places man as all important.  
This leaves no room for God.
      - ...Relativism: This is a way of thinking that removes any absolutes...  
One opinion is as good as the next. No morals...
      - ...Mindlessness: This is modern man who does not really think at all or has a reluctance to look at what is happening in a critical way. Amused!

As a Christian, you are to resist these ways of thinking that will mold you into a worldly person. You must!

#### II. **A Positive: Keep On Being Changed From The Inside By Renewing Your Mind.**

- A. We are to have minds that are "being transformed." This is the word "metamorphosis."  
It means that we are to continually allow what is on the inside of us to flow to the surface.  
...God has given you a new nature...think like a Christian. Think Biblically. Our minds are to be molded by the Word of God. (Colossians 3:16)
- B. This, however, is not a call to think about "Christian things." No! It is a call to think about all things through the lens of Scripture. This will provide the real 20/20 clarity for living.
  - 1. Think about the doctrine of God. He is really there and He is not silent...
  - 2. Think about the doctrine of revelation. Since God has spoken truth...no relativism!
  - 3. Think about the doctrine of man. Man is far more important than the humanist imagines, and man in his fallen condition, is far worse than the humanists suppose.
  - 4. Think about the doctrine of redemption. This intensifies man's value. God did it all.
- C. The result of such thinking will cause you to both approve and do God's will for your life.
  - 1. God's will is good. (Romans 8:29-30) Why is this stated? We often don't believe it.
  - 2. God will is pleasing to us. At the end of life, after serving the Lord you will have joy.
  - 3. God's will is perfect. Not lacking in any respect. There is a satisfying wholeness to it.

### LESSONS FOR OUR LIVES: