



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY
905 Clearfield Street * Morehead, KY 40351 * (606)776-7089 * www.gracemorehead.org

Renewing Your MIND

Series preached from Sunday, April 7, 2024 to April 21st

Over the past several weeks...on Sunday and Wednesday...we have talked about getting punched...
contrary winds blowing...battles, etc.

UNDERSTANDING: They are part of life...not just of a child of God...but of everyone.

HOWEVER: As a child of God...God has made a way out...He has given us authority over the battles...
we have been given the victory before they even show up.

~ These messages are not brought to you to glorify the punch or to glorify the battle...NO WAY!

~ These messages are to identify the enemy's methods and glorify our God.

QUOTE: "Everyone thinks they are blessed until famine comes."

That is the reason for famine.

Genesis 26 - Famine hits...is Isaac really living in the blessing or will he dependant on the worlds system?

2 Corinthians 2:11 – "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

IN CONTEXT: This is definitely dealing with forgiveness...but it also gives us a universal truth.

WHAT WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND: The enemy starts with you when you are young...choice words...
wrong friends...family traits.

He has examined every weakness you have and has even nudged some along.

THE PROBLEM IS: Most Christians don't know how the enemy works, at all...so He is having a field day
with you...attacking you on every turn.

~ How long do we put up with an enemies attack...how long does it take to recognize that he is working
against us...that it was his idea all along?

~ How many days do we need to be under self-pity and depression before we realize that it is an attack
of the enemy?

~ How long do you have to operate under the motto of "I can't" until you realize that has been a lie from
the enemy?

~ How long does sickness, pain or even lack have to stick around before you recognize them as an
attack of an inferior opponent?

Here is the KEY that I want you to see today.

The enemy NEVER comes with a one prong attack. He is never just throwing sickness your way and
walk away and hope it sticks.

UNDERSTAND: Most of us could win that battle...because we have been given authority over sickness.
Same with financial situations...relationship situations...etc.

There is a second prong of every attack...that when used correctly can become the ONLY attack necessary after that.

The attack that comes in your mind is that second prong attack.

Ephesians 6:11,12

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, **but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

NOTE: That is why we need the Word...breastplate of righteousness...helmet of salvation...etc.

2 Corinthians 10:4,5

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

The enemy is after you to get you to exalt his THOUGHTS...his ACTIONS against what God has said.

Proverbs 23:7 – “**For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:** Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.”

BELOVED: If the enemy can get you think about yourself as sick...you are sick. Poor? Broken? Helpless? Depressed?

So the enemy starts on you as a kid and begins working on you...you begin a thought pattern as a kid... usually living it out as an adult.

Mark 4:17 - “And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, **when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake**, immediately they are offended.”

BELOVED: We must understand that we get punched in the face to have the Word stolen....to steal the Word.

~ that you won't believe that it is true or absolute !

~ that you won't listen to it when it is preached, or even read it when you have opportunities.

~ that you would build excuses through experiences on how it doesn't work.

BELOVED: It is a mind game. As a man thinkers in his heart...so is he.

If the enemy can convince you the Word isn't true...**you will LIVE LIKE IT ISN'T!**

The Children of Israel

Numbers 14:22 tells us that the children of Israel tempted the Lord (went against Him) ten times in the wilderness...therefore, there was a generation who would not see the promise land.

BACK STORY: Every one of the people in the wilderness had never known freedom in their lives...they had only known the slavery and bondage of Egypt.

~ It was their lives.

~ Building cities for Pharaoh...having a hard time doing their chores, etc.

~ Depending on Egypt and their land for food.

So, God steps out and sets up a deliverance...10 plagues, etc.

Miraculous! Powerful! Healing! Amazing!

So they step out free...for the first time in their lives.

(Yup, just like us being born again)

HOWEVER: They still have an image of themselves in bondage. An image of Egypt being their provider.

BELOVED: As long as the children of Israel thought of themselves as slaves...they were stuck in Egypt...

~ even though God had already done things for them in the past.

~ even though God said otherwise.

BELOVED: As long as you live with an unrenewed mind, you will always be stuck in your old life...

~ even though God has already done things for you in the past.

~ even though God's Word has declared it.

So, let's watch several of these ten times and see their problems.

(1) The RED SEA (Exodus 14:10-12)

Vs. 11 – Were there no graves in EGYPT!

Vs. 12 – Didn't we say "Leave us alone, we want to serve the Egyptians!"

(3) The wilderness of SIN (Exodus 16:1-6)

They were hungry.

Vs. 3 – Why didn't you just let us die in Egypt?

We had food to eat until we were full! Now we are going to die in the wilderness!

(God introduces Manna)

(4) God gives rules to manna and they break the rules to manna!

NOTE: They are still trying to live for God in freedom the way they lived in Egypt as captives. Get all you can..have a cupboard full.

(5) Lack of water at Rephedim (Exodus 17:1-7)

Vs. 3 – You brought us out of Egypt for us and our cattle to die with thirst!

Moses struck the rock.

(6) At Mount Sinai and the golden calf (Exodus 32:1-6)

They were used to seeing Egypt and their idols.

(7) at Taberah (Numbers 11:1-3)

REMEMBER: They just woke up one day and complained? Just cause! No reason!

UNDERSTAND: When you don't change your thoughts...your living will become habitual.

Not tithing, not sowing, not going to church, complaining, nitpicking others, etc.

(8) Kibroth Hattavah and wanting more than manna (Numbers 11:4-20)

Vs. 5 – Remember what we had in Egypt?

Again and again through this passage they keep saying Egypt, Egypt, Egypt!

(10) Sending the spies in (Numbers 13 and 14)

They continued to live in inferiority...we can't...we are less than...we are unable to.

UNDERSTAND: 430 (plus) years earlier the enemy started a plan to get their minds...to get their imaginations. They lived in it...and even when they were removed from bondage...they continued to live with those boundaries.

Every symptom that arose...stirred up the thoughts of their old lives. It brought them to destruction.

They didn't cast them down. They let them stay.

They had to wander for 40 years to work those things out of their minds.

NOW...some of you may say, “Well, Pastor Thad, it is too bad they were not all like Moses...he handled things so well.”

WELL...now that you mentioned it.

REMEMBER: Early in his life when he was raised in the palace? Raised to be strong in this physical ability? Sure he knew who he was, but he had been surrounded by Egypt.

Exodus 2 – He sees an Egyptian and an Israelite fighting...he steps in and kills the Egyptian.

NOTE: He is going to do it with the mindset that he was raised with.

He thought he got by with it until a couple days later he saw a couple Israelites fighting and they said, “You gonna kill one of us like you did the Egyptian?”

He was caught.

So, he ran and hid on the back side of the desert for 40 years.

He now had a 40 years on the backside of the desert MINDSET.

Exodus 3 – God calls him at the burning bush and his answers are like this...

- ~ Who am I that I should stand before Pharaoh?
- ~ I am not eloquent?
- ~ I can't!

BELOVED: He had to work those things out...step out of those things...before he could lead people. It didn't happen magically. He had to work it out.

YOU MAY SAY about pastors and leaders...Well it is easy for them...nope, we had to work things out. As with Moses...we keep working things out in life.

Renewing Your Mind

Ephesians 4:23 - “And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;”

This is talking about putting on the new man...once you are born-again, what do you need to do? Deal with the circle of victory. You've been living with the flesh of your mind, not it is time to change.

(AMP) - “And be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude],”

(NLT) - “Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.”

(PASSION) - “Now it's time to be made new by every revelation that's been given to you.”

(MSG) - “a life renewed from the inside.” (Possibly read vs 22 also)

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.”

1.) **Make a decision to renew your mind.**

Recognize how dangerous it is to stay in Egypt and make up your mind do it.

Don't wait for everything to change for your mind to change...you have to do it.

And it isn't going to do it on its own. If you don't make the decision, it won't get done.

2.) **God wouldn't have told you to do it, if you couldn't do it.**

The enemy loves to tell you that you can't do it...but God tells you time and again that you can.

Philippians 4:8 – think on these things

Joshua 1:8 – on this law meditate day and night

Psalm 1:2 – on His law he meditates day and night

God expects it...commands it...so you can do it.

3.) Feed your mind correctly.

According to Romans 8 your mind is a servant...either to your flesh or your spirit.
 If your spirit is weak...your mind will run wild with negative thoughts.
 If your spirit is strong...your mind will be influenced by the Word and it will lead to life.

What you feed becomes your MINDSET.

Your mindset is what controls you.

Your mind is what you control.

John 8:31,32

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

4.) Confess what you believe or desire, not what you feel!

Mark 11:22, 23

THINK ON THIS: Jesus recognized that WHATEVER He blessed was blessed (through his mouth), however, He also knew that what He cursed would be cursed (the fig tree)...so He did not do that willy-nilly.

BELOVED: Most Christians are busy cursing ourselves by the Words of our mouths and cannot figure out why things are so chaotic.

Matthew 12:36,37

Matthew 16:9

ILLUSTRATION: Have you ever heard someone in a conversation answer my saying, "You got that, bro"?

Well, that would be an appropriate response when someone starts cursing themselves and speaking about their old life.

(**PERHAPS:** talk about people who testify and talk almost longingly about what they used to have)

QUOTE: Don't use your mouth as a thermometer, which only reads the temperature of your current situation...allow God's Word to turn your mouth into a thermostat, which changes the temperature of your life by confessing what God says.

IMPORTANT: If you keep slipping up with what you are saying...it is because you are not renewed in your mind.

Yes, you may have some Scriptures memorized...but the old man is still strong. What do you do? Get the Word in your mouth first...to change what is in your heart.

Romans 10:8-10 – mouth and heart, then heart and mouth!

You can't think one thing and speak another.

5.) Take thoughts captive and cast 'em down.

QUOTE: Positive thoughts are not going to stay, they need to be assisted. Negative thoughts are not going to leave, they need to be resisted.

2 Corinthians 10:5 – cast 'em down; take 'em captive

You can't keep birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair.

You can't keep bad ships from sailing in the ocean, but you can keep them from docking in your harbor.

6.) Don't get discouraged!

Discouragement is a secret tool of the enemy that works in tandem with bad thoughts. How often have you been working on your thoughts...words...only to mess up...and discouragement comes along and you want to quit.

BELOVED: It takes time...it is a process.

Even when Moses defeated certain mindsets...they would creep up time and time again...but he knew where to go, who to talk to.

ONE PERSON SAID: It took God six days to create the world...it was a process. However, each day something great was done and God celebrated what was done...He didn't complain about what wasn't done.

Galatians 6:9 – “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.”