

# Origins



## THE ORIGINS OF THOUGHT

At the completion of creation, "God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good" (Gen 1:31). Adam and Eve were in righteous fellowship with God. Genesis 3:1-7 describes the far-reaching and devastating blow to the human mind that would affect every human being who lived thereafter. Without question, Satan waged war against God and the human race in this monumental passage where the battlefield (Rom 10:9-13) turns out to be Eve's mind. In the end, Eve exchanged the truth of God (Gen 2:17) for the lie of Satan (Gen 3:4-5), and the human mind has never been the same since. By Noah's time (Gen 6:5) "every intention of the thoughts" of men "was only evil continually."



## THE CURRENT (DEFAULT) CONDITION OF THE MIND

**2 Tim 3:7** "always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth"

A passing review of how the New Testament describes the default condition of the human mind leaves us wondering if there is any good to be found there at all.

- |                          |                        |                           |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Rom 1:28 "debased"    | 5. Eph 4:18 "darkened" | 9. Col 2:18 "sensuous"    |
| 2. 2 Cor 3:14 "hardened" | 6. Col 1:21 "hostile"  | 10. 1 Tim 6:5 "depraved"  |
| 3. 2 Cor 4:4 "blinded"   | 7. Col 2:4 "deluded"   | 11. 2 Tim 3:8 "corrupted" |
| 4. Eph 4:17 "futility"   | 8. Col 2:8 "deceived"  | 12. Titus 1:15 "defiled"  |



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What is the Original Cause of this Default Condition of the Mind? Gen 3:1, 5

How does the mind respond to God Today? Gen. 3:10

In your opinion, has man's thoughts improved or worsened since the times of Noah? Gen 6:5

Is the Mind and it's thoughts trustworthy in this default condition today? Jeremiah 17:9

Can this mind be restored? 2 Cor. 5:17, Eph 4:24



## CHALLENGE: RECLAIMING THE MIND

How can we reclaim the Mind? The Mind must be...

- R \_\_\_\_\_ Rom 10:9-13
- R \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom 12:2
- I \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Cor. 2:12-13; Ps 119:18

The ultimate pattern of reclaiming the mind is maintaining the Mind of \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Cor. 2:16



## THE NEVER ENDING BATTLE FOR THE MIND

In warning believers about life's ongoing, never-ending battle for the mind, Paul tells about the schemes or designs of the devil. We would be wise to begin by recording in our minds how we can defend ourselves...

Please Memorize these passages:

- *Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.* Eph 6:11
- *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ* 1 Pet 1:13

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## Preach to yourself

*No one is more influential in your life than you are. Because no one talks to you more than you do.*

Your inner conversion is always interpreting life, therefore we must learn to interpret life with Biblical truth.

In our sin, we constantly find our responses to life in our fallen world to be disconnected from the theology that we confess. Anger, fear, panic, discouragement stalk our hearts and whisper in our ears a false gospel that will lure our lives away from what we say we believe.

## The Two Parts of Meditation

Preaching to yourself entails **Listening** and **Responding**.

The battleground is meditation. What is it that is capturing your idle thoughts? What fear or frustration is filling your spare moments? Will you just listen to yourself, or will you start talking? Not just talking but preaching — not letting your concerns shape you, but forming your concerns by the gospel. You must consistently preach the truth of God's word, applying them to yourself, shaping your steps and decisions at every juncture of life.

The Biblical design for dealing with the mind is to preach to yourself. This is modeled for us in various places, particularly in the Psalms.

### Psalm 42:5, 11

*Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you in turmoil within me? (Listen)*  
*Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my salvation and my God. (Response)*

After asking yourself the questions (Why are you sad, upset? cast down) the psalmist responds with a command to self (HOPE IN GOD) strengthening his own faith, remembering that his God is worthy of praise and what his God has done.

### Some Questions to ask your Soul?

- O my soul... What do I desire and why do I desire it?
- O my soul... am I seeking my own will of God's will?
- O my soul... What is the origin of my feelings?
- O my soul... do I know what God desires for me and what he has done for me?

## Future r828 Meeting Dates (bi-weekly) Summer 2018

**Mondays 7pm**

(Today)

**Jun 18**

**July 2**

**July 16**

**July 30**

**Aug 13**

**Aug 27**