



"Love the Lord Your God with All Your MIND!"

Love God ~ Love One Another (Part 4)

Go for God!

Text: Matthew 22:37-40 - *But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"*

Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment.

And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

> **Understanding the MIND:** The part of a person that *thinks and reasons*. Four separate Greek words account for nearly all instances of "mind" in the New Testament. They all mean much the same thing: *understanding, thought, mind, reason*. While today we think of a person's mind in a morally neutral way, in the New Testament the mind was clearly thought of as either good or evil.

> Negatively, the MIND may be:

(1) **"HARDENED"** - 2 Corinthians 3:14-18 - *But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

(2) **"BLINDED"** - 2 Corinthians 4:3-5 - *But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.*

(3) **"CORRUPT"** - 2 Timothy 3:8-9 - *Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.*

(4) **"DEBASED"** - **Romans 1:18-32**

> On the positive side, the Christian MIND is to:

(1) **Be RENEWED** - Romans 12:2 - *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

(2) **To be PURE** - **2 Peter 3:1-8**

(3) **Have GOD'S LAWS IMPLANTED** - Hebrews 8:10 - *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

(4) Have "the MIND OF CHRIST" - 1 Corinthians 2:16 - For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Philippians 2:5-11 - Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(5) Be "in unity" - Romans 12:16 - Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion;

1 Peter 3:8 - Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

> Let's be of ONE MIND with our Lord Jesus Christ:

- Learn to CHANGE YOUR MIND - Matthew 21:23-32

- Jesus teaches on SPIRITUAL WARFARE and the Mind - Mark 5:1-19

> How to have "PEACE OF MIND" - Isaiah 26:3 - Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Paul writes in Philippians 4:6-7 - "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus"

> How to overcome "DOUBLE-MINDEDNESS?" - James 1:6-8 - But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

T.W. Hunt writes, "double-minded person is restless and confused in his thoughts, his actions, and his behavior. Such a person is always in conflict with himself. One torn by such inner conflict can never lean with confidence on God and His gracious promises. Correspondingly, the term *unstable* is analogous to a drunken man unable to walk a straight line, swaying one way, then another. He has no defined direction and as a result doesn't get anywhere. Such a person is "unstable in all he does." God will not grant His blessings upon those who are double-minded. As Jesus pointedly declared, "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other" (Matthew 6:24)."

> Take your THOUGHTS CAPTIVE - 2 Cor 10:3-6 - 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 and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

> **Daily MIND PRACTICE is found In Philippians 4:8-9** - *Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

> **God will REWARD YOUR MINDSET - Jeremiah 17:10** - *"I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."*

> **GOD IS THINKING OF YOU! - Jeremiah 29:11-13** - *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.*