



Outer Growth - Thoughts

**For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, saith the
LORD.**

Isaiah 55:8

Thinketh - Proverbs 23:7ff

Heavenly - 1 Corinthians 15:48

Ongoing - Romans 12:12

Ungodly - Proverbs 16:27

God - Psalm 71:12, 77:13

Hell - Proverbs 15:11, 27:20

Time - Ezekiel 38:10

Satan - 1 Timothy 5:15

The thoughts and ways of God are not natural like the minds of His creation when He made human beings. However, human minds can be renewed and transformed by seeking Him, as in Romans twelve, verses one through two, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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." On the other hand, for people, thoughts are associated with physical things and being born into sin, giving the devil access to project thoughts to tempt those he enforces to accept them.

Thoughts come to people in what they are thinking. "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he," connects to the first six verses of this scripture in those laboring to be rich in Proverbs twenty-three. However, how a person thinks remains the same. What we

allow to come through our eyes and ears daily could influence our thinking. The five senses, the sense of vision, hearing sounds or voices, smell, feel, taste, all can contribute to what can come through our minds. Cherish not an evil thought: or else the end of Proverbs thirty, verse thirty-two, all must be cautious and consider to do, "if thou hast thought evil, lay thine hand upon thy mouth."

As a believer, thoughts can be heavenly and not always earthly. "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things, as in Philippians four, verse eight. These qualities describe the heavenly way of thinking and much more.

Although the thoughts from the heart can be heavenly, the human body in its present form, and with its wants and weaknesses, cannot enter or enjoy the kingdom of God. Then let us not sow to the flesh, of which we can only reap corruption. And the body follows the state of the soul. Therefore, the one who neglects the life of the soul casts away their present good; those who refuse to live to God squander all they have.

Thoughts are ongoing and will come from different areas of life. Again, the things that draw our attention can impact the pattern of our thinking. It takes several seconds to analyze something of interest, to affect our thoughts. However, all of us will encounter things through our five senses that will be of no interest, which could enter our thought process. Many troublesome thoughts that may disquiet our minds arise from mistakes. All the troublesome thoughts which rise in our hearts at any time are known to the Lord Jesus, and are displeasing to him.

As a believer, the thoughts can be ungodly. Do not accept it, and don't listen to it. Rebuke it and speak to it: "I do not accept you."

Thoughts are spirit. When thoughts of negativity come, do not speak them.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, as in the beginning of Proverbs eighteen, verse twenty-one. Ungodly thoughts are formed into existence from the results of what

your five senses encounter or experience. What you see, what you hear, what you smell, what you touch, what you say, and even what you do may contribute to your upcoming thoughts. How do you think people become so bad or good? The beginning of what comes inside our minds. "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he," as in Proverbs twenty-three, verse seven.

How many people today think about God? Or believe there is one? The ungodly do not think of Him because they do not believe. However, the only time some of the unbelievers remember God is when they use His name in a profane manner over something negative. "Oh my God," or "Oh Jesus," or "Jesus Christ" are some of the remarks the ungodly use, expressing their feelings over a situation that is not pleasing.

On the other hand, believers or the godly will have their thoughts on God, especially those who have a deep relationship with Him. Their thinking will be the result of them reading His Word, praising or thanking the Lord, praying to Him day or night, or simply speaking to the Creator. "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you," as in James four, verse seven. This is how believers overcome bad thoughts by replacing them with godly activity. God is good, and doing good things and not responding or reacting in an ungodly manner will help filter out potentially evil thoughts and keep the good ones inside.

Thoughts can lead people to hell. Most convicts or prisoners today who are in a place of incarceration began with a thought. Whether it came by what they saw, what they heard, or what they said to carry out what they did, put them in a place where they are now. If these people in a cell were reasoning with God, who created them, the outcome for them would have been different. "Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths," as in Isaiah fifty-nine, verse seven.

Timing is everything when thoughts come. Something goes right, or something goes wrong, and eventually the reflection begins. The question: How do we handle it? A series of things come to mind as we see, hear, and

attempt to respond. "Therefore, do my thoughts cause me to answer, and for this I make haste, as in Job twenty, verse two.

Thoughts can come from a variety of ways. They can derive from things that happened or what we hope to happen in the future.

However, one of the ways that thoughts are generated will come from Satan, as in the latter part of Luke twenty-two, verse thirty-one, "Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat." To sift is to remove something or separate from another. The only difference is that the evil one tries to take out the good thoughts and put in evil thoughts to fulfill his agenda and keep those from coming to know God.

Satan is cunning and uses problems or adverse situations in an attempt against believers or unbelievers to do the wrong thing, and eventually be under his control. Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden in Genesis three. Chapter four, Cain and his brother Abel are examples of how choices, from the thought, changed the course of life in both situations. There are other instances in the Old Testament and the New Testament, but to warn that thoughts can be dangerous, even by the devil.

There is nothing that can be hidden from the eyes of God, not even human thoughts. The thought can take a person somewhere, either leading them down a dark path or a good one. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it, as in Matthew seven, verse fourteen. Thoughts can work for you or even against you. " For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he," as in Proverbs twenty-three, verse seven.