

How To Help Improve Your Thought Life

By Kelly Koshatka

“To have the mind of the flesh will automatically bring forth death, but the very essence of the Spiritual mind is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is God’s enemy it cannot submit to God’s law and therefore never will” (Rom. 8:6-7).

The carnal mind doesn’t just think enemy thoughts against God and others, it is His enemy without a thought ever being considered! We feel guilty about the fruit of being carnally minded because of the awful thoughts that are produced in our hearts and minds. We can become motivated to try and “clean up our thought life”, yet the real need is to put off the old mind and put on the new which is the mind of Christ.

The only answer to getting right in your thought-life is through the revelation of Jesus Christ as your Life and Source. You will then no longer be motivated by your own thoughts whether they are good or evil, but rather you will walk in the mind of Another. This can more specifically be understood as the very spirit of your mind becoming renewed and bearing the image of Christ in His nature (Eph. 4:21-24). The old mind functioned by the old nature and thereby poisoned all thoughts that were coming forth. It makes no difference if the thoughts were sweet or diabolical; they were coming from enemy territory – the carnal mind (the mind of the flesh). The knowledge of both good and evil was produced by a tree that brought forth death regardless. Rather than trying to form Christ in a thought-life that is still rooted into the enemy ground of the carnal mind, we should reckon the old man dead! Thank God for the Cross!

When we comprehend that we have been cut off from the old man with his old mind, then we are free to put off the very source that produced the rotten fruit of prideful, selfish, and hurtful (etc.) thoughts. We must put away the old source like burying a dead corpse. We are not supposed to keep touching death by trying to make a decayed and corrupt man produce pure thoughts. Our hope is in realizing that through the Cross of Christ we have been cut off from this old man and are now joined to Another – mind and all! As we abide in union with Christ, His mind and thoughts will abide in us.

Christ’s attitudes are the fruit of His nature, which fills the whole of His being. Our only hope of being filled with the nature that brings forth the mind of Christ and bears the fruit of His thoughts is through being grafted into the Tree of Life Himself. Now we no longer seek to change our thoughts, rather we change our source. We stop trying to vitalize dead sap from a dead tree and become a branch of the Living Tree that receives of His root and fatness. Rather than fixing us, He replaced us with Himself. Let’s no longer find hope in trying harder, but allow Christ in us to be our “*hope of glory*”! (Col. 1:27).***