

Pastor Keith Moore



PT. 2 - THE SPIRIT - MIND CONNECTION (TRANSFORMED)

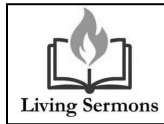
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Pt. 2 - The Spirit - Mind Connection (Transformed)

Preacher: Pastor Keith Moore

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

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Foreword

Your Biggest Problem May Not Be the Devil—It May Be What You Keep Thinking About.

That is a controversial statement.

*But before you reject it, consider this: **What if some of the things we continually pray against are being strengthened by the thoughts we continually entertain?***

Many believers understand that words are powerful. We know the importance of faith, prayer, confession, and the Word of God. Yet one area is often left unguarded—the mind.

We may speak faith in the morning and meditate on fear for the rest of the day. We may pray for peace and then spend hours rehearsing problems. We may ask God for direction while continually feeding our minds with confusion.

*This is where Pt. 2 – The Spirit–Mind Connection (Transformed) brings a necessary and challenging truth to the forefront: **your mind is not a passive space.***

In this teaching, Keith Moore calls the believer to take responsibility for what is allowed to remain in the mind. Drawing from Romans 12:2, he shows that transformation is connected to the renewing of the mind.

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

—Romans 12:2 (KJV)

*This is more than a call to positive thinking. It is a call to **think with God**. The central truth running through these pages is both simple and profound: **thoughts matter because thoughts connect us**. What we continually think upon affects what we believe, what we say, how we respond, and ultimately, what we become.*

The world pressures us to conform.

God calls us to be transformed.

The world says, “Think like everybody else.”

*The Word says, “**Be ye transformed.**”*

And transformation does not begin when everyone around you sees a change. Like the caterpillar hidden within its process before the butterfly appears, much of God's work begins inwardly.

A renewed mind can produce a transformed life. Throughout this message, Keith Moore repeatedly brings us back to a vital question:

What are you thinking about?

Not merely what are you saying?

Not merely what are you doing?

But what thoughts have you welcomed, entertained, repeated, and allowed to remain?

Because a thought is never as insignificant as it may appear.

A thought from God can bring light.

A thought from God's Word can bring peace.

A thought can strengthen faith.

A thought can change your outlook.

And when God's thoughts become the thoughts you continually meditate upon, you begin to see life differently—and, over time, you begin to live differently.

*This teaching also carries an important challenge for every reader: **being born again does not automatically mean your thinking has been renewed.***

Your spirit may have become a new creation in Christ, yet the renewing of the mind remains a daily responsibility.

That is why the Word must continually wash us.

That is why we must learn to reject thoughts that contradict God's truth.

That is why we cannot afford to let fear, unbelief, hopelessness, and the pressure of the world determine what occupies our minds.

The question is not whether thoughts have power to affect you.

The question is:

Whose thoughts are you allowing to shape you?

As you read this book, do not rush through it.

Pause.

Meditate.

Ask yourself the questions raised in these pages.

What thoughts have become familiar to you?

What thoughts have you accepted simply because they are common?

What areas of your thinking have been conformed to the world?

And what would happen if you deliberately filled your mind with the thoughts of God?

Perhaps the transformation you have been waiting to see on the outside has already begun at the place God said it would begin:

The renewing of your mind.

May the Word of God contained in these pages wash away old patterns of thinking.

May it strengthen your faith.

May it help you recognize thoughts that do not agree with God's Word.

And may you discover, in an ever-deepening way, what it means to keep your mind stayed upon Him.

Because when your mind is stayed on Him, you are not merely thinking about a truth.

You are allowing the truth to transform you.

— Wisdom Epsi

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

[Watch Keith Moore](#) as he teaches in the live sermon as from which this message was transcribed on YouTube.

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A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

Romans 12:1–2 (KJV)

“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.”

Let me read it to you from another translation. The New Living Translation says in verse 2:

“Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.”

Did you hear that phrase?

Let God transform you into a new person.

How is He going to do it?

We're involved in the process by changing the way we think. Is it true that if you change the way you think, you change you?

God changes you. He's the One that gives you the right thoughts, the right words, and the right things to think. Then you and I make the choice to think them and change our way of thinking.

And it will cause you to become a different person. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

CHAPTER ONE

Knowing the Will of God

How many in this place, and outside this place watching by the Internet and other means, are interested in knowing the will of God?

Knowing exactly what is that good, and well-pleasing, and perfect will of God for your life. Well, He's telling us how to know it, isn't He?

Us knowing and being established in the perfect will of God for our life is connected to mind renewal. And I think it would be safe to say that we're not going to find and know the will of God—the perfect will of God—without our minds being renewed, because He said this is how it happens.

So, should we be interested in our minds getting renewed?

People sometimes talk about churches like us and say, “Man, watch out. Don't go over there. They'll brainwash you.”

Well, in fact, your brain needs a real good scrubbing. And we know just exactly how to do it. It is the washing of the water of the Word.

The Washing of the Water of the Word

Depending on what you do, and how much of the world you're seeing and hearing, it is defiling. It is contaminating. And that's one of the reasons why we need to come together and have the Word wash over us.

That's why you need to open up your Bible at home and read your chapter and other things, and let the washing of the water of the Word cleanse your spirit and your mind.

We need it.

And in that washing process is renewing. You're washed, you're renewed, you're refreshed, invigorated, excited about tomorrow. And you hang around the wrong stuff and listen to the wrong thing, you'll feel weighted down, heavy, sad, hopeless, powerless—a victim.

Which means you better get out of there and get somewhere where you can hear something else.

Faith Buddies and Faith Friends

That's why you need faith buddies and faith friends who will not talk the junk, and failure, and defeat, and impossibility, and hopelessness of the world.

But they'll talk faith to you.

They'll talk Bible expectation.

They'll talk excitement about the future.

You know, you take looking forward to the future another step.

In just a few more breaths, we're out of here to Heaven.

That's real.

That's not a fairy tale. That's not imaginary. That's real.

And this is all we've ever done, so we think fifty years, one hundred years, is a long time.

It's not.

The Bible says:

“For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

James 4:14 (KJV)

That's what our life is like.

It may seem long to us, but that's what it really is like.

Anybody deal with flowers? How long does a bloom last?

That's our life.

It's like a vapor. It's like a mist. It's like a morning fog. It's there, then it evaporates and is gone.

The sun comes out, and it's gone.

That's your life.

That's my life.

But it's not the end.

This Is Faith School

This was just faith school. Preparation and training for the future. Because we are going to rule and reign with Him forever. We're going to be with Him forever. We're going to be with each other forever.

You know, you're going to meet your great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-great-grandpa and grandma that you never even knew existed.

And you're going to like them.

You have family there.

The family of God—all of them are your family.

It's going to be amazing.

So, we can endure these little trials and tests here.

The afflictions—they're not even worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed.

“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”

Romans 8:18 (KJV)

Can you make it a few more days and do some work for the Lord?

Have some victories, and then get out of here?

Yes, you can.

CHAPTER TWO

Mind Renewal and the Will of God

Well, we're talking about finding and doing the will of God, and in order to do that, this passage says mind renewal is connected to it. Today's English Version says it like this:

“Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world...”

Have you ever heard of peer pressure?

It's talked about a lot concerning school—junior high, high school, and college. People talk about how terrible peer pressure is. Peer pressure doesn't go away when you graduate.

Peer pressure, so-called, is simply a manifestation of the pressure that's in the world to make you like itself. Why is there so much pressure to conform?

Everybody else was trying it. You're the oddball if you don't try it. Everybody else was wearing, back in my day, bell-bottoms, big collars, and platform shoes.

Afros, if you could.

There is this pressure to conform. The shades and designs and all that change. They're continuously changing, but the pressure remains:

Don't be an oddball.

Don't be the last one on your block to have one.

Don't be the last one to participate.

Don't be the last one to experiment.

Why the pressure?

We need mind renewal.

We Are Different

We are different.

We are supposed to be different.

And there ought to be something that rises up in you and me when the world pushes us to conform to sin, to unrighteousness, and to ungodliness.

Don't rebel against God.

Don't rebel against your leaders.

Don't rebel against your parents.

Rebel against that.

Rise up against that and say, **“No!”**

When everybody else is wearing short skirts, everybody else is doing this drug, everybody else is doing that, everybody else is doing this—

No, they're not.

There's a lot of folks like us.

There's millions of people like us.

Now, there's billions of people on the planet, I know that, but there's not just two or three of us.

But even if it was, we're not supposed to conform.

We are to be nonconformists.

We are transformers, not conformers.

Don't Conform

Pressure is the right word.

Now, I'm referring to Scripture.

Look at it again. What did it say in verse 2?

What did it say?

Don't conform.

Did He say don't conform?

Then what should we do?

Don't conform.

Anytime you feel anything pressuring you, that's what it is.

The word *conform* literally means “to fashion alike.” It means to conform to the same pattern.

The devil, the spirit of the world, and ungodly people—pressure is coming from that to make you a cookie-cutter copy of them.

And we don't have to do that, do we?

We're not like them.

We're born again.

We're the people of God.

We're different.

We're supposed to be different.

And we don't have to make apologies for it.

We're not the ones that are wrong.

People that don't know God need to know God.

We don't need to go their way.

They need to come our way.

And if they don't see it and they don't believe it, that's sad.

We're not going to help them by allowing them to pressure us into conformity and hide our faith, hide our believing in prosperity, hide our believing in faith, or hide our speaking in tongues.

No!

They need to talk in tongues.

Everybody on the planet should be a tongue-talker.

Everybody should be a faith-in-Jesus, walking-by-faith, authority-in-the-name-of-Jesus, binding-and-loosing, talking-in-tongues Christian.

“Surely, preacher, you're not so narrow-minded as to say that everybody should be like y'all.”

Cultures vary. We're not supposed to go and try to westernize the world.

That's not the same as evangelism.

And a lot of what people think is Christianity is tradition that they have developed, and we need to separate tradition from the Word.

But we must not let the pressure to conform bend us, mold us, and shape us into a carbon copy of the unsaved, ungodly world.

We're different.

We're not like them.

We're not supposed to be like them.

Part of our job is to not be like them.

They need to see something different.

They need to see a different way to live, a different way to operate, and different ought to be in front of their face every time we come through.

I'm not talking about trying to be weird or trying to draw attention to yourself. I'm not talking about that.

Just being who you are.

Just being a child of God and not apologizing for it, not being ashamed of it.

Letting your light shine.

What did the Bible say?

Don't be conformed.

Don't conform yourselves.

But it went on to say:

“...but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind.”

Transformation: Becoming Something Different

The emphasis in the original language, the best I can tell, in this word *transformation*, means “metamorphose.”

It's what happens with a caterpillar to a butterfly. It is the exact picture of it.

And it is to change into something else—to change into another form.

Now, the world is trying to conform you to be like everybody else, but God would transform you into a different person.

And I believe this really is a missing link with a whole lot of Christians.

They come and they get born again and they get saved, and they hear about the power of the new birth. But then they are surprised and disappointed when, immediately thereafter, they're still dealing with some of the same issues the next week, and the next month, and six months later, as they were before they got saved.

And they kind of assumed that getting born again was going to take care of all this.

But no.

When you got born again, your mind didn't get born again.

Your spirit—the spirit part of your being—became a new creation in Christ Jesus, but you have the same mind and the same body.

Didn't we?

So, immediately after being born again, the Word tells us we have to do something with our minds.

We must take responsibility for getting them renewed.

Especially if you lived for any length of time on the earth before you got born again, your whole mindset has been conformed to an ungodly, worldly way of thinking.

And you don't even notice it because everybody around you thinks the same way.

And people call that normal thinking.

But it's conformist.

It's conformist thinking.

Thinking Like the Lord Told You to Think

And when you start thinking like the Lord told you to think, it's going to raise a couple of eyebrows.

And you go far enough, people will look at you and go, “Well, who do you think you are?”

Because it is so different from the way they think.

Don't be conformed, but let God transform you.

Transform means to become different.

To undergo a change in form.

To change into another form.

That's why these other translations bring out, "Let God transform you inwardly."

You become something different.

Even after you're born again, you're a new creation in Christ Jesus, but people who knew you the day before are going to see a very similar-looking person.

And you will retain a lot of your ways.

If you'll pay attention to your heart, wrong ways will bother you now.

Things will bother you now that didn't used to bother you.

And so, we need to get on a continuous diet of the Word of God, feeding God's thoughts into us.

And every time one of His thoughts shows up a wrong way of thinking, we're to reject that old way of thinking and embrace His way of thinking.

And if we'll do that, the Bible says we will be changed into another person.

Do you believe this?

Do you want to be changed?

And the other person that you're changed into is the Christ-like person, because you're thinking like Him.

The Transformative Power of Renewing the Mind

And this is the amazing thing. We haven't emphasized this enough. This is transformative power to change you. What about the billions of dollars and the countless hours and effort in training and education that human beings are going through, trying to change themselves, and trying to change each other, and trying to get things changed?

And people that are in terrible habits and terrible practices—we have to get them changed. We have to get them changed.

And even some Christians have made mistakes by thinking that prayer would take care of everything.

“I prayed for them and prayed for them and prayed for them. They still haven't changed.”

Prayer is wonderful, but you can't ignore the Word of God that says you have to get your mind renewed.

Unless we—and they—do something to change our minds and to change our way of thinking, we will not change.

We will not be permanently changed.

We have got to do something with our minds.

The Lord did something with our spirit when we were born again, so now we have the power to do something with our minds.

But He's not going to control our mind for us.

It's our mind.

We have to do something with it.

Are you willing to?

“Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

Romans 12:2 (KJV)

Renewing and Restoring

Renewing.

Restoring.

You know, the word *transformed* is used in another couple of places.

Mark 9—you don't have to turn there, but put it up on the screen for us.

Jesus Was Transfigured

Mark 9:2–3 (KJV) says:

“And after six days Jesus taketh with him Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them.

And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no fuller on earth can white them.”

This same word, *transformed*, is used here concerning Jesus when He took Peter, James, and John and took them up on the mountain.

“He was transfigured before them.”

That's the same word. *Transfigured* is translated *transformed* in Romans.

His raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow, so as no fuller on earth can white them.

He changed right in front of them.

They saw what was inside come out.

And they saw something different from what they had been looking at.

Is it true that there is a glorious possibility of this kind of transfiguration beginning to happen in us?

It's the same word.

Can you say, "Glory to God"?

Go to 2 Corinthians, the third chapter.

You Must Do Something With Your Mind

Transformed by the renewing of your mind.

You're not going to be spiritual—we're not going to be spiritual—unless we do something with our minds.

There's been wrong thinking in this area.

I've heard more than one person say, "I wish I could just turn this thing off and the Holy Ghost just take me over."

I've heard people pray and cry, "Oh God, just take me over and push my mind out of the way."

You're talking about a possession.

That's what demons do.

"I just want the Holy Ghost to just possess me and take me over and make me think right."

It's never going to happen.

He's not a devil.

He doesn't want to make you do something you don't want to do.

You have to yield yourself to Him willingly.

Voluntarily.

And He's not going to control your mind.

That's one of the unique things about us, the way God has made us.

Nobody can force us to think what we don't want to think.

We have freedom to choose what we want to think and choose what we want to say.

That makes us speaking spirits in the God class.

I know folks don't like to hear things like that, but we need to understand.

Are you not made in the likeness and image of God?

This is a big part of what makes us that way.

We can think anything we choose to think.

And we can say it, and we can believe it, and that's God-like.

That's how God operates Himself.

And we must take seriously what thoughts are.

CHAPTER THREE

Words As Thought Capsules

You know, we've been talking about words on Sunday mornings, and thoughts and words go together.

Because what is a word?

A word is a thought capsule. A word means nothing unless it conveys thoughts. And so, these are closely connected. And one of the biggest problems is folks not taking thoughts seriously. Not even thinking about the fact that they are significant.

But every thought came from somewhere. Every thought.

When we immerse ourselves in a book, or a movie, or a show, or a conversation, the inspiration for the script or for the storyline—where did it come from?

Where Did the Thought Come From?

I know I got a revelation as a boy, having to read certain literary works in school.

They had us read Edgar Allan Poe's work.

They even had us memorize some of it.

“Quoth the Raven, ‘Nevermore.’”

What did the raven say?

“Nevermore. Nevermore.”

And even as a young teenage Christian, I decided Poe had devils at his house.

Poe needed to get saved and get delivered.

But see, all these folks think it's a great literary work because it's written with elaborate prose.

We should have enough sense not to be razzle-dazzled by the prose and see where the spirit of it is coming from.

See, the devil is taking the world to hell with window dressing.

It's flashy.

It's bright.

It's this.

It's that.

It's art.

And so people ooh and ahh.

All of this is world conformity.

So-called experts ooh and ahh, and you looked at it and saw some crazy scribbles. But you don't want to be an outcast, so you read books and you look at it long and hard, and you decide, "Yeah, I see some depth in there."

You're a phony.

And a conformist.

If you don't see anything but squiggles, that's what you say.

Squiggles.

"You just have no eye for art."

And who made you an expert?

Who wrote the book that gave you the edge?

What devil inspired them?

Just because somebody writes an 800-page volume with a hardcover and has nine letters at the end of their name doesn't mean they know a thing.

What spirit inspired them?

Where did it come from?

Isn't it life or death?

Is that light or darkness?

Is it joy or sorrow?

If it's from God, it's good, it's perfect, it's life, it's freedom, it's joy, it's peace.

That's art.

There is no greater Artist than the Creator, God. He made you. He made me.
One-of-a-kind originals.

Let Him tell you what's art. Do you know what He'll tell you?

Stay away from that death.

Stay away from that confusion.

Stay away from that perversion.

I don't care if the whole world calls it art and wonderful. Have enough sense to know it's death—where it came from and what it is.

Don't be a conformist.

I don't care if the whole world is raving over it and they're handing out medals and accolades. If you need to say it, you say it: “That's depressing. I don't have depressing stuff at my house.”

“Oh, he has no eye for art.”

Don't be conformed.

Tell your neighbor, help them out right now, and tell them, “Don't be conformed. Don't be conformed.”

The Things of God Never Change

The waves of what's cool and what's great are changing all the time.

Look back over a little bit of history. What was all the rage the world over one hundred or two hundred years ago, now you can't find it.

What do you think about what's going on now? What is it going to be in a little while?

But the things of God never change.

And they're always good.

They exist forever.

Can you say amen?

Glory to God.

What was I talking about before I got off into all that?

Second Corinthians 3, that's right.

You guys are sharp.

Second Corinthians 3.

This thing has grown on me considerably, and I was believing for that. Are you believing with me for utterance?

You know, go to Romans, the eighth chapter. Let's not go there right now. I don't think we're quite ready.

Romans chapter 8.

Romans 8.

I want us to get to that passage in Corinthians. That third and fourth chapter has a wealth of light and truth on this subject.

But for right now, Romans 8:4.

Let's talk some more about this.

CHAPTER FOUR

What Is a Thought?

We've had them ever since we can remember that we were cognitive and self-aware.

But what is it?

Just because you're familiar with something doesn't mean you understand the significance of it.

Take oxygen, for instance.

We take it for granted, right?

But how did it get here?

What is it?

Where did it come from?

And some people have all these theories: "Well, the cosmos, the explosion."

Okay, if it happened that way, where did it come from to get to there?

What is a thought?

I'm encouraging you: meditate on that one simple question tonight, tomorrow, the next day, as we go through this series.

Just in the middle of a Tuesday, just say:

“What is a thought?”

What is a thought?

Thoughts are much more significant than we have thought.

Thoughts Are Spiritual

What is a thought?

A thought is spiritual.

It's not natural.

Can you touch a thought?

No.

You can't feel a thought.

Now, a thought can affect feelings and result in feelings, but the thought itself—you didn't feel it.

What is a thought?

Where did it come from?

What exactly is a thought?

There are some thoughts—come on now, think with me—there are some thoughts where you could just be going along, not happy, not sad, not anything, and think of that thought, and it will just make you happy.

Maybe it's your grandbaby.

Whatever it is—something they did, something that happened, or something that you're about to get to see.

You're about to get to this.

That thought comes to you, and I mean immediately, instantaneously, it makes you feel different than you did a millisecond before.

Doesn't it?

It's transformative.

It's powerful.

There are other thoughts that make people break out in a cold sweat and start to shake and tremble.

Nothing happened to them physically.

It was a thought of what they're about to go through or what could happen to them.

Thoughts can make you happy and full of joy.

Thoughts can terrify you.

They are powerful, powerful things.

What are they?

Where did they come from?

How do they exist?

How did they get to your mind?

And as we answer that question, we'll begin to realize we must take responsibility for what thoughts we let ourselves think.

We must stop just letting anything rattle around in our mind that happens to come through.

The Mind Is the Connector

Romans 8:5–6 (KJV) says:

“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

The mind is the connector.

Hold your place here and go to Hebrews, the fourth chapter.

I know I'm going slowly, but we need to.

We need to because this is not something necessarily a lot of people have spent a lot of time in.

And so, there's no need talking about multiplication when you haven't gotten addition.

Get first things first.

The Word of God Is Living and Powerful

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV) says:

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword...”

Now, the word *quick* means living and life-giving.

Quick is alive.

Quickening is life-giving—life-imparting.

The Word of God is quick.

How many know it is both of those?

The Word of God is living, and the Word of God is life-giving.

It is quick and it is powerful.

How many believe it's powerful?

What is the Word of God?

Well, the Word of God has been written in Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek, Italian, French, Portuguese, and on and on and on.

And a lot of those words, if you heard them, wouldn't mean a thing to you.

So, what is a word?

Including the Word of God?

The Word of God, though it is wrapped in Portuguese words and French words, or English words for us, contains the same thoughts.

If the word is the correct word, it's a capsule that contains the thought He uttered when He uttered it in the first language.

But I don't believe God is limited to Hebrew.

What did He speak ten billion years ago?

He speaks everything.

How many ways could He say it?

We don't have that long to discuss it.

But it's not the letters that form the English word—or whatever the word is.

It's the thought.

So, we're really talking about His thoughts, aren't we?

God's Thoughts Are Precious

The Psalmist said:

“How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!”

Psalm 139:17 (KJV)

“Oh God, Your thoughts are so precious to me.”

Would you say the same thing?

What could a thought of God do for you?

What is a thought of God?

God tells you, “I had a thought about you, and I want to tell you about it.”

What would that thought be?

Would it just be information, or is it alive, and life-giving, and powerful?

God had a thought, and so He said it.

“Let there be light.”

Genesis 1:3 (KJV)

Before He said it, it was in Him.

Wasn't it?

There is nothing more creative, more transformative, more powerful than God's thoughts.

And we have a Book full of them.

A Book full of His thoughts.

And His desire for us is that we immerse ourselves and think His thoughts night and day until we begin to think like Him.

Oh, come on now.

And as we begin to think like Him, we are transformed into being like Him.

Glory to God.

Our Eternal Future

And this is our eternal future. For the rest of our existence, God is going to share more and more of His thoughts with us.

And we're going to see things, and we're going to know things. We're going to understand and comprehend the vastness of God.

We're going to know and understand and comprehend and experience the height, and the breadth, and the depth, the length—the whole love of God, who is love. This gets too big to talk about, doesn't it?

And yet, this is not in vain. Do you know what all of us are doing that are awake and paying attention?

Our minds are in the same place. You and I and all of us are sharing these thoughts—the same thoughts—at the same time. Do you remember the Book of Acts talked about when they were all in one place, with one mind and one accord?

The most amazing things happened. Everybody lift up a hand and say it out loud:

“Lord, I love Your thoughts. I love Your Words that contain Your thoughts.

With all my heart, they are precious to me.

They are more valuable to me than silver and gold, than any amount of money.

They are life itself.

I yearn, I seek to know Your thoughts.”

Glory to God.

The Word of God Can Divide Soul and Spirit

“The Word of God is” alive, and life-giving, “and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit...”

We have been woefully ignorant of what we are.

I guess most Christians on the planet think they are mind and body, or if they acknowledge they're a spirit, they're not aware of it. It's just a position, a belief.

But you're not just a body.

You are a spirit.

You have a mind.

That's eternal.

If your body fell dead right now, it wouldn't change you. You would still be you. You would still have your mind.

You just would no longer be restricted and limited.

And even though we take your body and embalm it, or cremate it, or bury it, or whatever, that's not the end of that body.

I don't care if you died out in the desert, and your bones bleached to dust, and the buzzards got you, and the coyotes and everything else, and then what remained turned to dust and blew to the four corners of the earth over the next five hundred years.

When the trumpet sounds, God knows where every atom and every molecule is.

And it's going to come back together.

And the glory of God is going to flow through it.

It's going to become immortal and incorruptible.

Somebody said, "Do you really believe that?"

Absolutely.

Yes.

That's what's going to happen.

And then you're going to slip back in your body like a brand-new pair of shoes.

And you and I are going to have it all.

We're going to have a body that can keep up with our spirit.

We will be able to go at the speed of light, and do nine thousand things at the same time, and never get tired, and never get weary, never have a wrinkle or a gray hair or a sore spot.

What's that going to be like?

It's just a few breaths away from us.

We are so close to it.

A Thought Can Make You Happy

Makes you happy to think about it.

That's a thought.

See, we wouldn't even know—thinking about that, did that make you happy just now?

Okay.

That thought did something to you and for you.

We wouldn't have even known that thought except it's in here.

And the Lord said:

“In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.”

John 14:2 (KJV)

And He said:

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself.”

John 14:3 (KJV)

And Revelation gives us more detail about it.

And the Epistles tell us we're going to have a body like His glorious body.

We're just putting all that together and sharing these thoughts.

We wouldn't know to think that. We wouldn't know to conceive that unless He had given us that thought.

He gave it to us.

There are thoughts that are true.

There are thoughts that are lies.

These thoughts are true.

Soul and Spirit Are Not the Same

He said this Word is:

“Sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit...”

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

Your soul and spirit are not the same. Some theologians teach that they are.

It's not.

And the Scripture shows you plainly a way to understand it. I'm believing for more understanding of spirit and soul. I've heard some popular teaching that doesn't satisfy me. If you've done much study on it, the word *pneuma* and the word *psyche*—you can come away after nine hours scratching your head.

Because they're used in so many different ways. And this has to do with the translators. But anyway, we are spirit, and we have a soul, and we have a mind. And the Bible tells us that the Word pierces the dividing. The Word can pierce and divide soul and spirit.

If it can be divided, it must not be exactly the same.

“And of the joints and marrow.”

And to me, this is a picture of soul and spirit. Why would He use this right together with it?

Joint and marrow is a picture of soul and spirit. You could see why it could be challenging, if the Lord hasn't given you much revelation about it, to understand it, because joint and marrow are close, aren't they?

Joint and marrow.

That's the way soul and spirit are.

The Mind Connects the Spirit and the Soul

And so, with that in mind, go back to Romans 8 and notice this. The joint and the marrow are touching each other. Aren't they?

Are they connected?

Are they touching?

And yet, they're not the same.

Romans 8 tells us:

“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

Romans 8:6 (KJV)

To be carnally minded is death.

“They that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.”

For to be carnally minded is death.

Does it matter what you let yourself think on?

Is it true that there are thoughts that will absolutely minister death to you?

Another way of saying it: kill you.

Are there thoughts that will kill you?

Sometimes people might say, “Well, no. Just because you think something doesn't mean you're going to die.”

Let's talk about a lot of stupid stuff that people did, and they're no longer with us.

Why did they do it?

They had a thought.

This crazy thought came into their mind. They didn't think it through. They just acted on that thought.

And they're not here anymore.

So, did that thought have anything to do with killing them?

“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

Romans 8:6 (KJV)

Read that out loud with me, please:

“To be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

Minded means what you keep on your mind—what you think.

There are carnal, natural, fleshly things, and things inspired by the unsaved world and the devil, that just minister death to you.

And there are the Words that God has given us that contain His thoughts, and just thinking them changes you.

Thinking the Word Changes You

Do you believe that you can think the Word of God and it changes you?

While you're thinking it, it's changing you. What did our text say?

“Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

Romans 12:2 (KJV)

Will it change you to think what God said to you?

Our mind is being renewed right now. While we're thinking on what He told us, we're changing right then. We're changing internally, and if we'll keep doing it, it will show up on the outside. How many know the caterpillar was changing on the inside before you saw the butterfly?

And that's me and you.

The Word of God at Work in Healing

Go to Matthew, please, the eighteenth chapter.

I had the privilege of working in Brother Kenneth Hagin's healing school for a number of years, and ministering to people who—a lot of them—were pronounced terminal and hopeless.

And they came there as a last resort, looking for a miracle.

And we saw some amazing things.

And we also saw some people—they didn't receive.

And I know one thing that frustrated me in the early days, and there was more than one case. I saw this over and over again.

We had classes in the morning and in the afternoon.

So people that came in and just gave themselves to it would get like three or four hours of Word every day, and praise and worship and prayer. And sometimes there were additional things to that. A lot of times, I gave them assignments too when they went home—reading, confessions, and things to do.

And there were people that came in who were breathing so loud and laboring so hard to breathe, or even sit up straight, you could hear them all over the room.

They were so pale and struggling so much.

Some of them were on machines.

Some of them brought things in with them to sustain them. And you wondered if they were going to make it through the service. They looked like they could just stop breathing and just quit any moment. And later on, you'd find out the doctor said maybe they should have been—well, they expected them to be dead two or three weeks ago, or whatever.

And I saw some of the same people, like a flower in the sunshine, sit there and the Word of God would just come into them, and they would just soak it in. Sometimes not everything would change the first day, or two, or three. But some of them would come and stay with us two weeks, three weeks, a month. And I'd see some folks, sometimes just in five days of three or four hours of Word a day, look totally different.

Their breathing got better.

They're standing up talking to you.

Their color is good.

Now, their symptoms are not all gone, but it's obvious something amazing has happened.

What Happened Over the Weekend?

And then we would break for the weekend, and they'd go home or whatever they were doing, and come back Monday morning.

They looked nearly as bad as they did the previous Monday morning.

Well, that's annoying.

I don't like starting over every Monday.

And I know this can't be God.

And I saw this too many times.

And so, at one point, I got to seeking the Lord extra about it, and praying and fasting some.

“Lord, what is going on here?

I know You don't fail.

I know You know what's going on.

What's failing?

I know real faith doesn't fail.”

Connected to Life or Connected to Death

“What is happening here?”

And I didn't see it the first day or two, or week or two. But eventually, the Lord began to open my eyes and help me to see it.

And I don't mean I heard a voice, but He caused me to understand.

He said, “Son, while they're there with you those three or four hours a day—every day, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday—and a lot of them came from their homes or towns, even when they're not with you, they're reading the Word, they're praying in the Spirit, and they're worshiping God.

“They get up in the morning and come back and get fed the Word, and they go back.

“But when they left and went back home, a lot of their family asked them eight or nine times a day, ‘How do you feel? Don't tell me all that faith stuff. How do you really feel? How are you really doing?’

“While they're with you and they're thinking on what I said, they were connected to life.

“But then they unhooked. They disconnected and hooked up to death.”

To be carnally minded is what?

When you're thinking on the wrong things, you're connecting yourself to death so that death can flow into you.

When your mind is on the right thing, it's life and it's peace.

And this doesn't take some rare revelation.

If you've had a bunch of death and torment and vexation, you haven't had your mind stayed on Him.

Because if you'll keep your mind stayed on Him, what did Isaiah say?

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

Isaiah 26:3 (KJV)

He will keep you, keep you, keep you in perfect peace.

And I saw this in my spirit with these individuals.

It's like they would turn and think about the Lord.

They came in all down, but if they would turn their mind on Him and what He is saying, they would touch Him. And life would start flowing into them. Man, they would just begin to come up.

It might not happen all in a day or two, or even a week, but life would just keep flowing into them. They would just keep coming up. But then, if they quit thinking about what He said:

“...with his stripes we are healed.”

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV)

Or:

“With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.”

Psalms 91:16 (KJV)

And they start thinking about the bad report, and they start thinking about how they feel, and what happened to Aunt Mildred and Uncle Joe, and how Aunt Suzy didn't make it.

And what they don't understand, it's just like this:

Life would begin to come out of them, and death would come in. They would begin to get drained and pulled down. And then they would come back to healing school, and they would disconnect from that and hook back up to life.

And they would begin to blossom again and begin to come up.

Can you see this?

CHAPTER FIVE

To Be Spiritually Minded Is Life

To be spiritually minded connects you to life.

And life flows into your spirit, and into your mind, and into your body, and into your life.

But to be carnally minded is death, and death will flow into you—in your spirit, your mind, your soul, and your body.

Matthew 18.

What we're emphasizing is this:

Thoughts are spiritual. They're not natural.

You can't touch a thought.

You can't smell a thought.

You can't feel a thought.

It's spiritual.

Where did it come from?

Well, it came from a spiritual source, didn't it?

It came from an evil source or it came from a good source.

Should we think on thoughts that came from evil?

Should we identify a thought and its source before we meditate on it, dwell on it, and talk about it all day and night?

Yes.

And this has been the issue.

Folks think, "As long as I don't act on it, I'm just thinking about it. I'm not going to do it."

You're already doing something spiritual and real when you're thinking about something.

And what's happening is, we are connecting with spirits.

We are touching something and letting it touch us.

Just as real as a hand touching somebody or letting it touch you.

As Touching Anything

Matthew 18:18–19 (KJV) says:

“Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.”

Should we bind up and cast down some thoughts?

And should we allow the good ones to come in?

And verse 19 says:

“Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth...”

Notice these next two words.

As touching.

As what?

Now, He's not talking about physically touching something.

Agree on earth as what?

“As touching any thing that they shall ask...”

When you and I get in faith, and our mind is on the same thing, and we ask the same thing, and our faith is on the same thing, this says we touch it.

We touch it.

“As touching anything they shall ask, it shall be done.”

We touched something.

Something happened.

It set things in motion.

Things changed. Something was done.

Right?

We touched something.

Spiritual Things Are Real

Spiritual things are real.

When you set your mind on something, you open your spirit up to it.

And you reach out to touch it, and you allow it in to touch you.

If it's good, that's good.

If it's bad, it's defiling and death-dealing.

And there is no such thing as meditating and dwelling on something and it not having any effect.

Even if you hide it from other people, if you go around thinking about it all the time, you're touching it and it's touching you.

And it's changing you.

You can only hide it for so long. And if we're touching and thinking on something bad, it's bad. But if we have our mind on Him, and we're thinking what He told us, hallelujah, then it's transforming us on the inside. And even though everybody might not see it, you can't hide it forever. You're going to begin to act like the Master.

Talk like the Master.

It's going to begin to come out. And people are going to look at you and go, "Wow! Where did that come from?"

And it's good.

And it came from you being changed inside.

Grab the Thought God Gives You

And where it began was either last week, or last month, or five years ago. A thought from God came into you, and you didn't just let it pass through. You grabbed it.

You said:

“This is precious. I'm going to think on this all day.”

“This makes me smile when I think about this.”

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (KJV)

I am the righteousness of God in Christ.

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

Philippians 4:13 (KJV)

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

If we thought about that enough—excuse me—if we thought about that enough, then if anything from the outside tried to conform us and tell us we couldn't do it, we'd look at them like they cussed or were nuts.

We'd think:

“Huh? I can do all things.”

It has made you into somebody that can.

Come on, do you see that?

And you will just stay after it until you do.

If it takes a year or ten, if we have to move mountains and build bridges and cross oceans, you'll do it.

But if you're quick to go, “Well, they haven't been able to do it. I guess not. Who am I?”

That means your mind has not been renewed.

So you think like the unsaved people that don't even know God. You think just like them.

Even though you're born again, and if you died you'd go straight to be with Jesus, in your mind you think just like the unsaved world.

And so you have no power to do things beyond what they do.

Agreeing and Touching

He went on to say:

“That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.”

Matthew 18:19 (KJV)

Do you know this same word, if I'm pronouncing that right, is the word we get our word *symphony* from—to agree together, to harmonize?

This is exactly what Ananias and Sapphira did. The word is used in the Greek.

They agreed together to lie.

They touched the wrong thing.

And the Spirit of God, through Peter, looked at them and said that Satan had filled their heart to lie to the Holy Ghost.

He said, “You didn't lie to men; you lied in God's face.”

You got up in God's face and lied in His church, in front of everybody.

And they fell dead right there on the spot, one after another.

Did something touch them?

Did they let something get into them?

I don't know if they were sitting around the house talking about it, looking at the money and how much they got for the sale of the land, and they got on the same page.

They agreed together that this is how they were going to go, and they opened up their spirit to the devil.

What else could they have done?

That thought came up.

If they were both right like they should've been, even if the devil brought the thought to each one of them individually, they would have shut that thing down in a millisecond, and they would've never discussed it.

It would have never even come up.

But if one of them had been weak and brought it up to the other, they would've said, "Are you kidding me? No. We're not going to go tell a lie in the church."

And they would have shut it down. And they wouldn't have perished like that.

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

Romans 8:6 (KJV)

To be carnally minded is death.

To be spiritually minded is life and peace.

What Your Mind Has Been Dwelling On

If we're not experiencing an ever-increasing flow of life and peace, it's obvious what the problem is.

We have been letting our mind go to some wrong places. We have been dwelling on the wrong things. We've been listening to, thinking about, and talking about wrong thoughts. And it's ministering death to us.

Keep reading.

“That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

Matthew 18:19–20 (KJV)

Do you see verse 20 starts with the word *for*?

That means it's connected to what He just got through saying about touching and agreeing.

For.

Why would it be done for us of our Father which is in heaven?

Because when you and I grab hands—or we don't—we just agree. But our mind is on the same page, and we're sharing the same thoughts. And our thoughts are believing God and reaching out. And we say, “In the name of Jesus,” He's there.

We're touching Him. He's touching us. Come on, are you listening?

We're touching Him.

Learn to Set Your Mind on God

Oh, the devil doesn't want us to know this. He doesn't want us to understand this. He wants to try to confuse us and complicate it and keep us from it.

But friend, you get a hold of this, and you begin to practice controlling your mind and focusing your thoughts and being protective of your mind—not letting yourself think wrong things—you will develop in this.

And you'll learn how, no matter what's going on, I mean, it could be a hurricane around you, you'll learn how to set your mind on God and immediately open your spirit up to Him and touch Him.

Just like that.

He's there.

You're there.

And you're aware of Him.

You're touching Him, and He's touching you.

And life flows out of Him.

Life goes out of Him.

Wisdom flows out of Him.

Direction flows out of Him.

But if you listen to the devil, he will even use the name of the Lord in vain.

“Oh, my God, what are we going to do?”

That thought didn't come from God.

“Where is this going to come from?”

“How in the world are we going to get past this?”

“What in the world...?”

Those thoughts send you into a spin, and you're trembling, and you're shaking, and in fear.

You're touching something else.

It's no wonder people shake and tremble like they do in fear.

I'm convinced, if our eyes could be opened and we could see what we are touching, we'd take thirty-five showers.

Come on, are you listening to me?

And we would never do it again.

You Do Not Have to Entertain Wrong Thoughts

Some folks have felt sorry for themselves, gone and crawled up in the bed, and laid there and pined.

If they could see what's laying up in the bed with them, what they are intimate with, what they are letting inside their mind—I mean touching your skin, we're not talking about that.

We're talking about touching you inside you.

And we don't have to do it.

I said, **we don't have to do it.**

We do not have to do it.

When these ungodly, unbelieving, death-filled, fear-filled thoughts come to us, the first moment we're aware of them, we have the power.

We have the ability to grab them and to cast them.

That's a strong word.

Cast them down.

And say:

“I refuse to think that. That's a lie. That's not true. You cannot touch me.”

And then you start speaking the Word of God. And that puts His thoughts right back in your mind. Come on, are you listening?

And if you'll keep your mind stayed on Him, He will keep you in perfect peace.

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

Isaiah 26:3 (KJV)

Touching the Prince of Peace

Why would you be having perfect, total, complete peace all the time?

Because you're touching the Prince of Peace. You are in contact with Him.

You're touching Him.

And He's touching you.

And that's why that peace is flowing in you, and around you, and filling up your house.

Glory to God.

A Prayer for a Renewed Mind

Stand on your feet, everybody. Oh, thank You, Lord.

Thank You, Lord.

Let me lead you in this prayer. Release your faith.

“Father God, I ask You, alert me to wrong thoughts—defiling, death-ministering thoughts. Thoughts that didn't come from You; ungodly, fearful, unbelieving thoughts.

Alert me when they come.

Help me to recognize them immediately, and by Your grace, I'll cast them down.

I'll refuse to think about them or talk about them.

I choose Your thoughts. I choose Your Words. I choose to meditate in what You said night and day.

Thank You for keeping me in perfect peace and filling me with the life of God.”

Oh, hallelujah.

Just praise Him some more.

Don't think about your needs.

Don't think about your problems.

Don't think about your mistakes.

Don't think about your failures.

Think about Him.

Think about His love.

Think about His mercy.

Think about His grace.

Think about His goodness.

Keeping My Mind Stayed on the Lord

Keeping my mind stayed on the Lord.

Keeping my mind stayed upon the Lord.

Keeping my mind stayed on the Lord.

He's my meditation night and day.



About Keith Moore

Keith Moore is a Christian minister, Bible teacher, and founder of Faith Life Church. Along with his wife, Phyllis, he has devoted his ministry to teaching the Word of God and helping believers grow in faith.

His teaching focuses on faith, healing, the Word of God, the leading of the Holy Spirit, and practical Christian living. Through his ministry and Bible teachings, Keith Moore encourages believers to trust God's Word, renew their minds, and live by faith.

*This message reflects one of his key teaching themes: **the thoughts we receive and meditate on can shape our lives**. It calls believers to fill their minds with God's Word and learn to recognize and embrace His thoughts.*

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