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## Renewing The Mind And Meditating God's Word #2

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In learning to renew our minds and not be conformed to the ways of the world, we see in Ephesians the 4th chapter the importance of releasing the "excess baggage" that we carry into our new life with Jesus. Renewing our minds will allow us to grow in our faith and rid ourselves of those old ways which try to hold us back.

Eph 4: 23-24 "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." KJV

Without the renewing of our minds, many times fear or imaginations can sometimes cause us to have many doubts as to what God's plan for us is. Faith being the opposite of fear lets us rest in the promises of God and have total peace in all situations that we face. But without having the renewing of our minds, we have nothing to draw on. Fear expects the worst, faith expects the best.

Rom 12: 1-2 " 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. 2 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" KJV

Paul has taught the believers in the 6th chapter of Romans, how they are dead to sin, that sin has no power over them, that they should begin declaring who they are in Jesus and in this chapter of Romans he is teaching believers the importance of them renewing their minds, not being conformed to this world, that they may prove the will of God.

It is a challenge for us to learn how to renew our minds to the Word of God. Many people who have been believers for years have not learned this principle of what God has imparted to us in our spirit man when we were born again and the blessings that He has for us. Without the renewing of our minds, we will never experience what God's will for us is. His will includes life, health and prosperity. The Bible is a copy of the last will and testament of the covenant we have with God, but we won't know what is there without the renewing of our minds.

Gravity is a law and it works, but the law of lift is greater than gravity. The law of faith in the spiritual realm comes through the renewing of our minds, it supersedes all the things that make us feel earthbound and where we see no hope. The law of faith rises above that into the goodness of God. Without the renewing of our minds we will become conformed to the way the world thinks. The world's thinking is, there is no hope and everything takes on a negative

outlook.

Transformed means that there is a change from the inside to the outside, changing the appearance of something, much like when a butterfly is changed from a cocoon into a beautiful butterfly.

The most important principle in renewing our minds is by meditating the word, or worrying the word of God. However, there is another side of meditating the Word of God that is extremely important. We must determine how the Word applies to us personally. Since it is a Word from God, how does it apply to the situation we are facing? We must come to the place that we agree with the Word and what has been spoken to us.

Joshua 1:8 "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success" KJV

Meditate means to talk or converse with ourself, study, think deeply, imagine or ponder.

Meditation will cause us to be invincible, cause us to rise above any opposition, takes the limits off, get us out of the confines of the box we might be in, and is always sowing to our future.

"We must learn how to deal with fear in a positive way. We cannot allow a trickle of fear to remain in our lives. It is not of God; fear will come on us if not dealt with."

Meditating on the word will cause us to see things differently, than someone who hasn't been meditating. It is important for us to learn to believe God in the smaller things we encounter in life, so that when we face the bigger things in life we will have something to base our faith on, in order for us to look back and recall how He delivered or healed us. God answered our prayer then and will do it again. This is a result of meditating on the word of God. You can't believe God without renewing your mind.

The following account in Samuel speaks of how David had learned to meditate on God's Word. David had experienced the anointing of God on him when he killed the lion and bear as he went about doing his work of tending the sheep for his father. He was being prepared to be a leader of people; he recognized the covenant that he had with God when he came into the presence of the giant. The giant had been harassing the army of Israel, but when David who had no fear, came face to face with him, David told him what he would do to him.

David was not afraid, but he was angry that the men of Israel have allowed the giant to intimidate them like he had. David reminds them that they have a covenant with God and that this uncircumcised giant did not, reminding them that their God is a living God. Because of David's meditating on the word of God, he told them that he would go and take care of things. They tried to talk him out of it, but he knew what he could do. David explained the things that God had done for him, reminding him of the victories that had been given to him. David was not conformed to the world, but looked and saw things totally different, because of his renewed mind. David continually kept saying what he intended to do.

1 Samuel 17:24-26 "And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel. 26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God? " KJV

1 Samuel 17:34-37 "And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: 35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. 36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. 37 David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee." KJV

When people try to tell us that we can't do things and we are finished, they haven't factored in the anointing that God has given to us. We have a covenant with the living God that tells us that we can do it, no weapon can be formed against us, the enemy will flee from us, that we can do all things through Christ Jesus and if we fall seven times we will rise again, He is for us, who can be against us, by His stripes we are healed, and He will supply all our needs. This is our covenant with the living God that comes with a renewed mind, where we are no longer conformed to the world.

We are going to encounter opposition while we are renewing our mind. People will think that we have lost it, but we must be constant in renewing our minds. We must continue to say what the word says, faith always has a voice.

Mark 11:23 "For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith." KJV

The following scriptures show us the benefits as we meditate the word of God. We will be like the tree planted by the water, prospering in all that we do, bringing forth fruit, our foundations will be strong, able to withstand the storms that will come against us, we shall not wither or die. However, the opposite applies if we are not meditating the word, our foundations will be weak unable to withstand the storms, causing great destruction

Psalms 1:1-3 ".Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" KJV

Jer 17:5 "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord." KJV

Luke 6:46-49 "Why do you call Me, Lord, Lord, and do not [practice] what I tell you? 47 For everyone who comes to Me and listens to My words [in order to heed their teaching] and does them, I will show you what he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug and went down deep and laid a foundation upon the rock; and when a flood arose, the torrent broke against that house and could not shake *or* move it, because it had been securely built *or* [founded on a rock. 49 But he who merely hears and does not practice doing My words is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation, against which the torrent burst, and immediately it collapsed *and* fell, and the breaking *and* ruin of that house was great." AMP

Matt 7:24-28 "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. 28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:" KJV

By renewing the mind and meditating on the Word of God and acting on what the Word says to us, we become doers of the Word. The storms will come against all of us, but there will be no ill effects against us when they do. Renewing our minds is a process as we are transformed, we are changed. Whatever our challenges might be, remember that God is for you. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less or nothing we can do to make God love us more. If we love Him we will start keeping His commandments. He loves us unconditionally.

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A word of encouragement was given:

The way you see life depends on whose eyes you see it through, to look through mine will take some faith, so keep your faith and it will grow, your eyes will change and My love will show, the clearer you see the less you'll fall and everyone will see that I am Master of all. So open your eyes and look through me, and there lives victory you will see.