



The Vintage Newsletter-Spring Edition

I'm Delivered, I'm Free

As redeemed believers and new creatures in Christ we are delivered, set free, loosed, released from the bondage and captivity of sin, justified and made righteous by the shed blood of Jesus Christ and by faith stand forgiven and acceptable in God's presence I'm Delivered, I'm Free. In my soul (my mind, will and emotions) is the battleground where Satan wages constant warfare with emotional and mental strongholds, evil influences, struggles and fears that hinder us from walking in total deliverance and enjoying freedom in our mind and right thinking towards members in the family of God.

One of the greatest areas of freedom if not the greatest is freedom in our mind. The scripture says as a man/woman thinks in his/her heart so does he/she become. Proverbs 23:7. Our mind is the forerunner of our actions; and our actions are a direct result of our thoughts. As believers in Christ it should be a priority that we think right thoughts. Our thinking and mental patterns must come in line with the word of God, it's no way we can have a negative and an ungodly mind and live a positive and godly lifestyle. Where the mind leads the man follows As believers we have a choice to make, either give our mind to things of the flesh, satisfying the lustful, sensual appetite and desires of our flesh, resulting in death; or we can renew our mind and thinking with the word of God and set our mind and affections on things above satisfying the desires of the Holy Spirit that provide life and soul peace.

As we grow and mature in our relationship with the Lord, Satan has an entire arsenal of fiery darts ready to throw our way distracting our thinking in an effort to disbelieve the word and destroy fellowship with Him. Satan's mission is to steal, kill and destroy the Lord's plan for your life. Satan uses principalities and powers of spiritual wickedness and purposely plants carnal, negative and ungodly thoughts in our minds. When Satan can get you to allow your thoughts to go unchecked, undisciplined or unharnessed and concentrate on ungodly thoughts he can form strongholds in our mind, will and emotions. Praise God! We do not have to accept those evil thoughts but treat them as prisoners, hostages, enemies of God and make them obey the word of God. Moses told Joshua; "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." Joshua 1:8

The only antidote for tormenting emotional and mental strongholds is studying, pondering and meditating on the word of God day and night and obeying what it says to do.

The scripture says for though we live in the flesh we are not carrying on warfare according to the flesh and using mere human weapons. The weapons of our warfare are not physical/carnal weapons of flesh and blood, (as guns, knives, profanity) but our weapons are spiritual, mighty, divinely powerful before God for the destruction of strongholds or fortresses. We cast down and destroy sophisticated arguments, beliefs (opinions contrary to the truth) and imaginations that try to exalt themselves against the true knowledge of God's word, and take every evil thought captive to the obedience of Christ, being ready to punish every act of disobedience...
II Corinthians 10:3-6

What is a stronghold? A natural stronghold or fortress is a walled in area, a fortified or protected place that houses certain groups each with a specific mission. For example, in the U. S. military there's Fort Bragg, Fort Wayne, Fort Knox, Fort Le June and Fort Binning. Each fortress or stronghold houses and protect certain groups and divisions of the military each with its own separate and distinct mission some service the Airforce, some service the Army and others the Marines.

Spiritually, an emotional and mental stronghold is an area in our mind that houses and protects a certain patterns of thinking, Satan has special groups of demons, principalities, and spiritual powers assigned to control, dominate and infiltrate your thoughts. For example: Satan builds strongholds in the mind as:

- Strongholds as pornography, prostitution, adultery, fornication, lewd and lasciviousness-lustful and perverted sexual deeds of the flesh.
- Strongholds of covetousness, battles with greed, power, fame, money, stinginess, selfishness, self-centeredness, envy and jealousy.
- Strongholds of pride, high mindedness, haughtiness, judgmental, critical, complaining, faultfinding.

There are many other strongholds that the believer struggles with as; homosexuality, lesbianism, anger, hatred, controlling, deceiving and manipulative principalities, bad temper, rebellion, stubbornness, fear, worry, depression, anxiety, alcohol and drug addictions, rejection, self-hatred, self-pity, no self-worth or no value, shame, feelings of inadequacies, emptiness, rage, domestic abuse and violence, murder and the list goes on.

The believer must not pretend their mind and thought life is not tormented by spiritual wickedness- emotional/mental strongholds. Strongholds can't be ignored, wished away or swept under the rug. Satan and his evil influences must be exposed for what they are and the destruction they do in others lives. Strongholds can only be destroyed in the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the word of God. The word must shine on them and break their power over you only then as a born again believer can you live in complete deliverance and freedom.

Please don't get discouraged but guard against evil. Be determined never give up the more you take wrong thoughts and strongholds captive and think on what the word says, your mind and thoughts will become more liberating and free to think on things that true and lovely and of a honest righteous report. You're Delivered, You're Free!

KB Walker

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I am the True Vine and my Father is the Husbandman