

Battle of the Mind



Our weapons in the battle 2 Corinthians 10

The Spiritual War

- **10** Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence *am* lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you. ² But I beg *you* that when I am present, I may not be bold with that confidence by which I intend to be bold against some, who think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. ³ For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare *are* not [\[a\]](#)carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

Battlefield of the Mind

The greatest spiritual battle we face is the battle with our thought life.

The apostle Paul says here that our job in this battle is to “destroy strongholds.” You know what a stronghold is? Paul is talking about pretensions, arguments set up against the knowledge of God. This is a mental battle. And he says, “Destroy these strongholds.” A stronghold can be one of two things:

- It can be a worldview; these are worldview strongholds that people set up against the knowledge of God. E.g., materialism, legalism, sensuality, judgementalism etc.
- A stronghold can also be a personal attitude. Anxiety, ungodly fear, worry depression can be a stronghold. Seeking the approval of other people can be a stronghold. Anything that you make an idol in your life can be a stronghold — fear, guilt, resentment, insecurity. All these things can be strongholds in your mind. And the Bible says that we are to tear them down.

What are the thoughts we battle with?

Pride-Galatians 6

V1 Brethren, if a man is [\[a\]](#) overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. ⁵ For each one shall bear his own load.

What are the thoughts we battle with?

Romans 13 **Put on Christ- Lust**

- ¹¹ And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now, our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹² The night is far spent; the day is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk [\[c\]](#)properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

What are the thoughts we battle with?

- Galatians 5
- **Walking in the Spirit to battle Lust**
- ¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

What are the thoughts we battle with?

- Envy- Galatians 5
- ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ [g]gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. ²⁴ And those *who are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.
- [1 Corinthians 13:4](#)
- Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not **envy**; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

What are the thoughts we battle with?

- **Anger** [Colossians 3:8](#)
- But now you yourselves are to put off all these: **anger**, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.
- What it means to put off is to repent, lay aside, renounce, put off and move on. Greek word apotithémi (ap-ot-eeth'-ay-mee)
- Anger Greek word orgé means- impulsive and reactive anger towards someone or something

What are the thoughts we battle with?

- [Ephesians 4:31](#) **Bitterness- put away**
- Let all **bitterness**, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.
- [Hebrews 12:15](#)- **Falling short of the grace of God**
- looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of **bitterness** springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

Unpacking of weapons

- Walking in the Spirit not in the flesh
- Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. Recognise, repent, renounce and reject those thoughts that argue and exalt themselves.
- Capturing every thought to the Obedience of Christ- bringing into subjection to Christ.
- Putting Off; Ready to repent and renounce and reject every disobedience thought.
- Putting on Christ- clothe yourself with Jesus.

Renewing the mind- understanding, reason, knowledge, thoughts

- **Living Sacrifices to God- Romans 12**
- **12** I beseech^[a] you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your* ^[b]reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- **Serve God with Spiritual Gifts**
- ³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Set our mind

[Romans 8:5](#)

- For those who live according to the flesh set their **minds** on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

[Romans 8:6](#)

- For to be carnally **minded** *is* death, but to be spiritually **minded** *is* life and peace.

[Romans 8:7](#)

- Because the carnal **mind** *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

Have the same mind

- [Romans 12:16](#)
- Be of the same **mind** toward one another. Do not set your **mind** on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.
- [Romans 15:5](#)
- Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-**minded** toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,
- [Romans 15:6](#)
- that you may with one **mind** *and* one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Have the same mind

- [Philippians 2:2](#)
- fulfill my joy by being like- **minded**, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one **mind**.
- [Philippians 2:3](#)
- *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of **mind** let each esteem others better than himself.
- **The Humbled and Exalted Christ** Philippians 2
- ⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it ^[b] robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but ^[c] made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

Sound Mind- clear able to exercise restraint.

- [2 Timothy 1:7](#)
- For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound **mind**.
- A sound mind enables us to exercise sound and proper judgment over matters and discern Gods will.

Sober Mind- temperate, exercise self-control

- [Titus 1:8](#)
- but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober- **minded**, just, holy, self-controlled,
- [Titus 1:15](#)
- To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their **mind** and conscience are defiled.
- [Titus 2:6](#)
- Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober- **minded**,

Sanctified Minds

- [Hebrews 10:16](#)
- “This *is* the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their **minds**, I will write them,”
- [1 Peter 4:1](#)
- Christ’s Example to Be Followed
- Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same **mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,

God Searches our Minds

- [Revelation 2:23](#)
- I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the **minds** and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

Summary- What type of Mind should you have?

- **Set Mind- Mind set on Christ**
- **Same Mind- Mind like Christ and unified in Christ**
- **Sound Mind- Have a mind that thinks clearly about things**
- **Sober Mind- Be sober in your thoughts**
- **Sanctified Mind- Allow God to sanctify your thoughts**
- **Searched Mind- Allow the Lord to search your thoughts**



Good Night

Friends & Loved Ones

Sweet Dreams!

May the Peace
of the LORD
be with you in
Rest.