

IDENTITY THEFT
Lies You've Been Told ... and How to Get Your Life Back
HEAVEN AND HELL IN YOUR HEAD

How We're Made...

The Bible and human experience suggest that human nature has three basic features:

1. The body, which is the area of my world-awareness.
2. The soul, which is the area of my self-awareness.
3. The spirit, which is the area of my God-awareness.

The body is our world-side, the soul is our self-side, and the spirit is our God-side. Humanity in its fullness is a unique balance and blend of all three.

Genesis 2:7 (NIV)

I Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV)

Revelation 2:7 (NIV)

I Corinthians 13:12 (NIV)

II Corinthians 4:4 (NIV)

Satan's Influence on the Mind...

Matthew 16:13-17 (NIV) - - Jesus specifically identified the source of Peter's thought, but before that moment Peter was oblivious to the spiritual dynamics affecting his mind. He was an unknowing recipient of divine revelation.

Matthew 16:21-23 (NIV) - - Once again, Peter was oblivious to the spiritual dynamics affecting his mind. He was the unwitting recipient of spiritual deception.

Acts 5:1-3 (NIV) - - Peter is a different man.

II Corinthians 11:3 (NIV) - - Most of our thoughts are self-initiated. I think most of my own thoughts, and I am fully responsible for what I think. But demonic promptings always remain a real and present possibility.

Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

How Can I Know Where my Thoughts Are Coming From?

1. Practice

Hebrews 5:14 (NIV)

2. The Word

Psalms 119:11 (NIV)

3. Staying teachable and willing to listen to others, especially those who are spiritually mature.

I Corinthians 4:15 (NIV)

4. The spiritual disciplines: Prayer. Fasting. Worship. A commitment to the spiritual disciplines is the price we must pay for the fine-tuning of our spiritual sensitivity.

II Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)

A daily prayer to protect your mind: Heavenly Father, forgive me for my wandering thoughts and undisciplined thinking. I realize that I have not been guarding my heart, and I have allowed wrong thoughts to influence or even control me. I resist those thoughts in the Name of Jesus, and in the power of His might I cast down every stronghold of wrong thinking: imaginations, pride, self-pity, anger, deceit. Give me a clear head. Grant me spiritual discernment to recognize the origin of my thoughts. I am committing myself to thinking right and thinking straight. Deliver me from distortion and misunderstanding. And Lord Jesus, give me the strength to refrain from speaking out my thoughts unless I am certain that what I say will bring honor to You and life to others. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Next Weekend's Message:

8/10-11/2013 – "The Outreach-Oriented Person"

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