

Bat11 – **Salvation For Your Mind – Eph 6:17**

The **MIND** is a Terrible thing to **Give Over** to the **Devil** -  
**Especially** when it is a **Christian's Mind**

& I want **you to know** – Right Up Front  
**Your Spiritual Enemy** - Wants **CONTROL** of Your **Mind**

If he can **INFLUENCE** your Mind  
If he can **INFILTRATE** your Mind  
If he can **WORM** his **Evil Intentions** into your Mind

***Then . . . He's GOT YOU!!***

Your **MIND** is the area of the **MOST Intense** Spiritual Battle

Because - **WHERE you Set Your Mind - Is WHERE you GO**

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I **spent years** in the **Mortgage & Real Estate business** –  
before I **retired** from working - to **start** this church (Ha)

& **there's** a well **known truth** in the real estate world – & that is  
If You **get** the **WIFE** to **buy** that house **IN HER MIND** –  
*If you get her living there – IN Her **MIND***

Then You have **SOLD that House**

**Cause** once she's living there **IN HER MIND** – She is **Physically**  
**MOVING** there - & her **husband** w/ her if he **wants** to stay **married**

Because – **WHERE you Set Your Mind - Is WHERE you GO**

## **Proverbs 23:7 – In the NKJV**

***7 For as [a man] thinks in his heart, so is he . . .***

**Today we want to talk about – The **POWER OF** your **Mind**  
& the **INTENSE** Spiritual **BATTLE FOR** your **Mind****

## **Let's Pray**

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We've been **Looking** at the **Spiritual Armor** in **Eph Ch 6**  
& we've **gotten** all the way to the **HELMET of Salvation**

**Paul** has been **using** a **Roman Soldier**  
to **illustrate** Our **Spiritual Armor**

& The **Helmet of Salvation** is the **FIFTH Article** of Armor  
that we **must** either **PUT ON** – or **TAKE UP**

**In order** for us to **Remain Standing Firm**  
when the **attacks** from the **enemy** come - **in the Evil Day**

In **addition** to Either "**Putting On**" or "**Taking Up**"  
**TRUTH** – **RIGHTEOUSNESS** – **PEACE**- & **FAITH**

**Ephesians 6:17 tells us to (NLT)**  
***17 Put on salvation as your helmet . . .***

The **NLT** uses the phrase "**Put On**" – But the **Literal** is "**TAKE**"  
Meaning to "**TAKE UP**" Your **Helmet of Salvation**

**Because** - there's a **WAR on**  
& **the Enemy** Wants **CONTROL of your MIND**

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A **Soldier's Helmet** is meant to **Protect** His **NOGGIN**

But in the **Spiritual Battle** The **Helmet of SALVATION**  
is Meant to **Protect** – **YOUR MIND**

**Because** in the **Battle** Between **Hell & Heaven** –  
**Whoever** gains **control** of your **MIND** – **Gains Control of YOU**

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So – **Here's** the **First Thing** we've got to **KNOW**  
about the **Helmet of Salvation**

**SALVATION IS NOT JUST GOING TO HEAVEN**

**Contrary** to what you **might think** – Salvation **DOES NOT** refer **ONLY**  
to a **person's acceptance** of **Jesus Christ** as their **Savior**

The word translated **Salvation** - **Equally refers** to God's **ongoing work**  
of **rescuing** us and **delivering** us – **BY His Mighty Power**

**Here in Eph** - Paul is telling **BELIEVERS** – **SAVED PEOPLE** –  
to **TAKE UP** their **Salvation** to **Protect their Minds**

& He's **not referring** to our initial "**Receiving**" of **Jesus** as our **Savior**  
for the **forgiveness of sin** & our **entrance into heaven**

**Salvation** does **START there** - But that **initial ACT**  
of **Placing** our **Faith** in **Jesus** Christ

Is **NOT what** Paul is **saying** to **TAKE UP here** - in order to **Stand**  
**Firm** in The **Spiritual Battle**

Far **too often** – **Christians** view **Salvation** as **ONLY**  
that "**Moment of Faith**" – that **gets them** to **Heaven**

& **Salvation DOES Occur** in that **Moment of FAITH** –  
& the **Forgiveness** of your **Sins IS instantaneous**

But **That** is **ONLY** - the **INITIAL RESULT** of your **Salvation**

**This Initial Result is Called - JUSTIFICATION**

**Justification** is the **Removal** of the **Penalty of your Sin** –  
& **God Granting** to you **The Righteousness** of **Jesus Christ**

**But** - Your **Salvation DOES NOT End** there

After the **INITIAL Result** of your **Salvation** (Called **Justification**)  
**comes** your **SANCTIFICATION**

**SANCTIFICATION** is an **EQUAL RESULT** of your **Salvation**

**Sanctification** is God's **Ongoing Transformation** of your **Life**

**God Accomplishes** your **Ongoing Transformation**  
By the **Power of the Holy Spirit** living **inside** you

& **Pls Listen** very closely to me here – ***“Sanctification is NO LESS a  
Result of your Salvation than Justification is”*** [repeat]

The **INITIAL** Result of your Salvation – is **JUSTIFICATION**  
***The Removal of the Penalty of your Sin***

The **ONGOING** Result of your Salvation – is **SANCTIFICATION**  
***The Ongoing Transformation of your life***

& it is <b><u>IN the Process</u></b> of your <b><u>SANCTIFICATION</u></b> where the <b><u>Spiritual Battle RAGES</u></b>
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& Then – The **FINAL RESULT** of your **Salvation**  
is **GLORIFICATION**

**Glorification** is You being **Made Like Jesus**  
**When** you **SEE HIM Face to Face**

**JUSTIFICATION** is the **INITIAL** Result . . .

**SANCTIFICATION** is the **ONGOING** Result . . .

**GLORIFICATION** is the **FINAL** Result of your Salvation

But **ALL THREE** of these **Events** are

The **SINGULAR RESULT** of your **True Salvation**

**True Salvation – Brings ALL THREE of these Events**

**JUSTIFICATION – SANCTIFICATION - GLORIFICATION**

**The Problem** is – **MANY** Christians **Hit PAUSE**  
**after** their **Initial Result** of **Justification**

Far **too often** – we **See someone** get **Saved**  
& then **basically** continue **LIVING** - & **THINKING**  
**just as** they did **BEFORE** they were **Saved**

**They fail to Grasp that the ONGOING Result of Salvation**

is an **Entirely New** way of **THINKING**

& an **Entirely New PERSPECTIVE** of this life

**THAT** is why **Paul** is **saying** (TO Saved people) – **TAKE UP** your  
**Salvation** - He is **Referring** to your **SANCTIFICATION**

**He's Referring** to that **PART** of your **Salvation**  
**that is** an **Ongoing Transformation** of your **life**

Because **THIS** is the **PART** of your **Salvation** (**The AREA**)  
**WHERE** the **Enemy FOCUSES** His **ATTACK**

**The Enemy Can't CHANGE** the Fact that You've Been **JUSTIFIED**

**If** you are **Truly Saved** then He **Can't Change** the Fact  
that **you** are going to be **GLORIFIED**

**But he can** certainly **Get You** to **Destroy** your **own life**  
**instead** of **Being Transformed** in Your **SANCTIFICATION**

& **Not only** can he **get you** to **Destroy** your **OWN LIFE**  
But he **can use you** to **Damage** or **Destroy** other lives **Around you**

& **to Stand FIRM** against the **Enemy's PLAN**  
to **bring destruction** into your **life . . .**

You've **got** to **PROTECT Your MIND** - **WITH Your Salvation**

You've **Got to Use** The **Transformation**  
that **God is bringing** into your life

To **PROTECT** what **HITS Your Mind** –  
& to **DETERMINE** what **DIRECTS Your Mind**

**Col 2:6 CONNECTS** the **Equal Results**  
of **Justification** & **Sanctification** – in your **Salvation**

**Colossians 2:6 (ESV)**

**6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,**

In the **SAME WAY** that you **Received Christ**  
**Continue** to **WALK** (Order Your Life) **In Him**

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## CONSIDER THE 'ROLE' – THAT YOUR MIND PLAYS IN THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE

Your **MIND** is the **control center** for your **choices**  
& **Your Choices Determine** your **LIFE** – or your **DESTRUCTION**

**We need** to get **Really Clear** on this

**WHERE you Set Your Mind - Is WHERE you GO**

Now – **like so many** of **God's Truths**  
**the world** has **corrupted this truth**

**For example** – **Some** people will **tell you** - **you** can have **anything**  
you **Want** – by just **setting your mind** on it  
& **the universe** *will bring it to you*

**THAT is NOT TRUE**

But **what IS TRUE** – is that **IF** You **Set your Mind**  
on **Gaining** All The **Material Things** of **this World**  
it **WILL Lead** your **Life** to **DESTRUCTION**

**THAT – Is TRUE**

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**But Think** for a **Second** – about how **"All Encompassing"**  
the **ROLE of The Mind** is - to the **Spiritual Battle**

Let's **go through** **all 6 articles** of Armor – **AND** the **7th area**  
which is **WHERE** the **battle is fought**

& **SEE How** Critical a **ROLE** the **MIND Plays**

- 1) Living in **TRUTH** – Is a function of the **MIND**
  - 2) Living in **RIGHTEOUSNESS** – Is a **CHOICE** made with the **MIND**
  - 3) Living in **PEACE** – Is a Function of the **MIND**
  - 4) Holding up **FAITH** – Is a **CHOICE** made with the **MIND**
  - 5) We're talking about **APPLYING** your Salvation to your **MIND**
  - 6) Using **SWORD** of the Spirit – **Begins** with your **MIND**
- & the **Big 7th area** – where the battle is fought – **PRAYER**  
which **Begins** in your **MIND**

Your **MIND** is absolutely **CRUCIAL**  
to **EVERY area** of the **Spiritual Battle**

& **The Enemy** has **Successfully KEPT** the **Importance** of this truth –  
**AWAY** from **Most Christians**

**We think** we can put **anything** we **WANT** in our minds  
& **still** be **Following Jesus**

**We think** we can **THINK** whatever we **want**  
& **Set our Minds** on whatever we **want** –  
***& Not be Effected Spiritually***

But – **WHERE** you **Set Your Mind** - Is **WHERE** you **GO**

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**In the Bible** - The Phrase **“SET YOUR MIND”** Means;  
***To continue thinking in a certain direction –***  
***or to fix your attention in a certain direction***

To **“Set Your Mind”** means to **CONTINUE THINKING**  
in a **Certain Direction**



**TURN over to - Romans 8:5(a) says (ESV)**

***5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh . . .***

**Look closely – those who are Living According to the Flesh  
(which leads to their destruction),**

Are **doing so** - **because** they **Set Their Minds**  
on the **Things of the Flesh**

& **When** the Bible says “**Things of the Flesh**”  
it’s **Not JUST talking** about **Sexual Sins** & **Lust**

**The FLESH – IS anything** that **comes** from your **Sin Nature**

**GAL 5:19-21 Lists** Some Common “**Works of The Flesh**”

<b>Sexual Immorality</b>	<b>Impurity</b>	<b>Lust</b>	<b>Idolatry (anything)</b>
<b>Sorcery (drugs)</b>	<b>Hostility</b>	<b>Quarreling</b>	
<b>Jealousy</b>	<b>Anger</b>	<b>Selfish Ambition</b>	
<b>Dissention</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Envy</b>	
<b>Drunkenness</b>	<b>&amp; Sins <u>like</u> These</b>		

If you **SET Your MIND** on the **Things of The Flesh**

You will **LIVE** According to **The Flesh**

& You will be **BE DESTROYED** By Living for **The Flesh**

**THAT** is the **Enemy’s Desire** for you

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**But Then - Romans 8:5(b) says (ESV)**

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

Again – notice closely

Those who are Living According to the Spirit, are doing so  
because they are Setting Their Minds on the Things of The Spirit

If you SET Your MIND on the Things of the Spirit  
You will LIVE According to The Spirit  
& You will Have ABUNDANT LIFE By Living for God  
& THAT is GOD'S Desire for you

Do you SEE how Critical a Part of the Spiritual Battle Your MIND is?

& then – Just to make sure we have every chance  
to HEAR what God is Saying

Romans 8:6 says (ESV)

*6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.*

There's a Simple MATH Formula Here

Mind on FLESH equals Death

Mind on SPIRIT equals Life

& then – Rom 8:7-8 Really wraps it up for us

Romans 8:7-8 (ESV)

*7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.*

*8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

THAT is Exactly what the Enemy WANTS for your Life

& THAT is Exactly WHY

We must PROTECT our MIND with our Salvation

**The Problem is - We don't want to ACCEPT the Fact  
That What we PUT in Our Mind – Effects Our LIVES**

Our **Son David** just **returned** from some **additional Training**  
**Before** being **stationed** with a **S.E.A.L.** Team in San Diego

& they **put them** in 4 separate **Virtual Reality Rooms** –  
With **Video Screens** on the **Walls & Ceiling** – & a **Real Humvee**  
**sitting** in the **middle** of **Each room** - & all **4 rooms inter-connected**

& The Virtual Reality – Got **ALL** your **senses were going**  
**The Movement** – **The Smells** – The **Sights & Sounds of Battle**

**ALL** of it **so real** - it **made** your **Body React** in the exact **same way**  
it **would react in** the **Real Battle Situation**

In **other words** – **They** were **Reacting MORE** to the **stimulus**  
that hit **their MIND** – **than** what was **Actually REAL**

**In Fact** – The **Stimulus** that **Hit their Mind**  
**BECAME** **Their Reality**

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Now – **we KNOW** they **Use this Truth** to make **Suspense Movies**

**But Do** we **REALLY CONSIDER** – That **WHAT We PUT**  
into our **MIND** – **DETERMINES Our REALITY** ??

Pls **HEAR ME** when I tell you – The **Enemy of Your SOUL**  
**Knows this Truth VERY WELL**

**Just think** of all the **Un-Godly Influences**  
he Tries **SO HARD** to **SHOVE** into **your Mind**

He is **constantly** trying **to PUT THINGS** Into your **Mind** –  
That **DISTORT** Your **REALITY** about **GOD**  
& **About** *Who* **You** are **IN CHRIST**

**his Scheme** is to **get you** to **Believe** His **FALSE Reality**  
**OVER** God's **TRUE Reality**

& **Then** he will **SOW Destruction** **INTO** Your **Life**

& **if** you **Don't Understand** The **CRUCIAL ROLE**  
that **your Mind** **Plays** in this **Eternal Battle**

**Then You** will **SWING** the **Door WIDE OPEN** - & **Allow him**  
to **MANIPULATE You** - & **USE You**

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**Do** you **remember** the **Famous REBUKE** that **Peter Got**  
**When** it **SEEMED** Like **Jesus** called him - **SATAN**

**Let's Look** a little **CLOSER** at it (Turn to Mark Ch 8)

**Jesus** & the **Disciples** were up at **Caesarea Philippi** (we love)

& **Jesus** was **explaining** that **the time** had **come** for **him** to be  
**rejected, arrested, & killed** – But after **3 days** he would **Rise** again

& we pick it up in **Mark 8:32–33 (ESV)**

***32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.***

***33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”***

Now - **Jesus** was **NOT Really** Calling **Peter** "**Satan**"  
But **He was** clearly **implying** – that **Satan** was **USING Peter**

**WHY ?? - BECAUSE** - Peter was **not setting his mind**  
**on the things of God - but on the things of man**

So – **Here's** a **Quick Question** For you;

Do you understand that **WHAT** you **Set Your Mind** On -  
Can **actually Open the Door** – For **SATAN** to **use you ?**

*if it can happen to The Apostle Peter – it can happen to us*

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We <b>Must Realize</b> – The <b>Battle</b> For our <b>MIND</b> <b>May be</b> the <b>MOST IMPORTANT Spiritual Battle</b> for us to <b>WIN</b>
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**Here's** what **CHARLES STANLEY** Says  
In his **Book**: "**When The Enemy Strikes**"

**CHARLES STANLEY**: *The mind is the real spiritual battleground on which the enemy fights his strongest, dirtiest, bloodiest, and most important battles! We must protect our thought lives.*

Guys - **Nobody** can **govern your thought life** – **BUT YOU**

**& Your Thought Life** - is the **REAL Spiritual Battleground**

**Where** The **Enemy** is Fighting *his strongest, dirtiest, bloodiest, and most important battles!*

**As a Christian – You have**

the **POWER** of The **HOLY SPIRIT** - &  
the **POWER** Of **The WORD OF GOD** - at your disposal –  
***To GOVERN Your Thought Life***

**But Even** with **ALL** the **Power** of **HEAVEN** **Available** to us  
We **STILL** Must **MAKE The CHOICE**

& we must **Make that Choice** – **DOZENS** –  
If not **HUNDREDS** of **Times a DAY**

It is **SO CRITICAL** that we **LEARN HOW** to **Protect our MIND**  
**With our SALVATION**

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**SO – DON'T WE HAVE TO GET - TO THE HOW ??**

**Don't** we have to **Know HOW** – To **Be TRANSFORMED**  
**By** The **RENEWING of our MINDS** ?

**YES** – We **MUST** Learn **HOW**  
**BUT** . . . We **just don't have time** to get to that **today**

So - Can we do **One More Week** on **HOW** to **BEGIN**  
to **Be Transformed** – By the **Renewing of our Minds?**

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**What I CAN tell you** – to **CLOSE** Today – **Is This**

If we **ever HOPE** to **WIN** the **Spiritual Battle** for our **MIND**  
We **MUST Begin** by **Truly Believing** this **Statement**

<p><b><u>"I CANNOT</u></b> Think like <b><u>I Think</u></b> – <b><u>I MUST</u></b> Think Like <b><u>GOD Thinks</u></b>" -- [repeat]</p>
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**Your Transformation begins**

***When you STOP thinking the Way YOU think  
& you BEGIN thinking the Way GOD thinks***

**We have GOT to RETRAIN Our BRAIN !!**

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Alright – **Let's FINISH - WHERE We'll START – Next Week**

**Romans 12:2 (ESV)**

***2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind . . .***

**This is the same Scrip we've been leaning on  
in just about every message**

**Do not be Conformed to this world – It means  
Don't THINK like this World – Don't ACT like this World**

**Instead – Be TRANSFORMED  
that means get a New Nature (a God Nature)**

**& HOW does Rom 12:2 SAY to get a New Nature?  
By RENEWING Your MIND**

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**Our Salvation will SAVE US from Being Conformed to this World –  
IF we will Fight The Good Fight**

**& Our Salvation WILL Transform Us –  
IF we will Do our PART in the Sanctification Process**

**& ALL of it Comes - from a Complete RENEWAL of our MIND  
Which we will Focus ALL of our Time on – Next Week**

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**It IS a battle !**

**It's a Battle that is FOUGHT – ONE THOUGHT at a Time**

**As 2 Corinthians 10:4–5 Says (ESV)**

***4 For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.***

***5 We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,***

**It's a BATTLE – One Thought at a Time**

But the **Blessings of Victory** are **IMMEASURABLE**  
& the **COST of DEFEAT** – **UNTHINKABLE**

**Let's Pray**