

HOW WE THINK

Every person views their life through a filter

For example, optimists see opportunities in every situation they face, while pessimists can only see defeat and failure

Both could be facing the same circumstances, **but their filter determines how they respond**

A filter is simply a way of thinking

And whether you know it or not, the direction that your life is going has been influenced and controlled by your personal filter or by the way you think

Proverbs 23:7 says, “For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”

If that is true—and it is—then it makes sense to be sure that you are viewing your life through the right filter.

Colossians 2:8 says, “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

In this scripture, Paul was giving the believers in Colossae (Turkey) a warning.

The word **“BEWARE”** is being used in the sense of a sentry on GUARD duty.

It’s a military term talking about being on guard, being on the LOOKOUT

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And the word “SPOIL” is not talking about food; it’s talking about the spoils of war that go to the victor—the gold, silver, and land.

Paul was saying to be on guard lest you be overcome by an Enemy!

that will strip you of your treasure, which is the truth that God has placed in your heart.

That Enemy, the devil, wants to steal what God has given to you, using the world’s filters and the religious traditions of man.

Jesus referred to this in *Matthew 15:8-9*,

***8 ‘This people honors Me with their lips,
But their heart is far away from Me.***

***9 ‘But in vain do they worship Me,
Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’”***

The people believed the commandments of men more than the Word of God.

2 Tim. 3:5 tells us

holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

Jewish leaders of the day, were saying that Jesus was not enough, that the people still needed to observe rituals and ceremony, and those requirements were making the Word of God of no effect in their lives:

We were just talking about this yesterday in our Men’s group Kingsman.....

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According to *Matt. 15:6*

“Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition”

They were operating according to a filter, but the wrong one.

Many Christians are doing the same thing today.

They have bits and pieces of the Word of God filed away in their brains, but they have not meditated on them enough to change their core beliefs.

You can read the word of God, but until God breaths over it through relationship it does not come alive, it stays belief

When the pressures of life come.....

they are able to quote dozens of scriptures claiming God's promises, but they act according to their heart.

A good example of this can be seen in the life of a man I know who was raised poor, he did not have what others had and he was very jealous, in fact he would get ridiculed at school for it.

So as he grew up, he was absolutely determined to make lots of money (*money is not evil*)

He got married had kids purchased a home and has the American dream, BUT NOT HAPPY, not satisfied....

He is purchasing toys like he was a child, trying to make up for all he didn't have as a child.

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His way of thinking is gummed up by the broken child, He has a good heart but it is still wounded from the past.

If at your core, you have a philosophy—a way of thinking—that is negative, it will manifest in your life.

If you see yourself as broke, sick, or a failure, it will become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

On the other hand, if at your core you see yourself as prosperous, healthy, and successful, that will be what manifests in your life.

So, it's important that your philosophy is based on the truth of God's Word, **so a man thinks in his heart so is he.**

I am called to establish a church with **KINGDOM MINDED PEOPLE!**

It's through the subtle deception of human philosophy that Satan tries to deceive us.

The first example of that can be found in ***Genesis 3:1-5.***

Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.

And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

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And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Now think about this: It says that the serpent was more subtle.

The word SUBTLE means *crafty, sly, cunning, and deceptive*.

He wasn't using a frontal attack to overpower Adam and Eve; he was attempting to change their way of THINKING, their philosophy.

Adam and Eve began with a pure philosophy.

If Satan can change your way of thinking he can change your core values....

They were completely dependent upon God and never questioned His wisdom and goodness.

Satan first caused them to question God's word, and then he caused them to question God's goodness.

He beguiled them, which is what Paul was writing about in

2 Corinthians 11:3

– “But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.”

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Satan has never changed his tactics.

He is at work through our society and culture trying to create a philosophy that is contrary to God's Word.

He is always trying to devalue the finished work of Jesus and His Word.

Sad to say, it's working.

Even most Christians today do not have their belief systems firmly in place.

They are influenced more by culture, movies, their upbringing, or the opinions of others **than by the Word of God.**

Worship Team please come up

God wants you to prosper and be in health even as your soul prospers.

You have read that by His stripes, you were healed and that Jesus came to give you life and life more abundantly.

Yet when you look in the mirror, you see a failure, a loser, or a sick and defeated person. Why is that?

It's because of your core philosophy, the lie...

Maybe your parents told you that you would never amount to anything, or a previous mate convinced you that you were worthless.

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Whatever the root cause for your belief (philosophy), you are being spoiled, and your treasure is being stolen.

We need to Study and meditate in the Word of God, and change your basic core beliefs.

Ministry Team Please Come UP

Heb. 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

In my own life, as I began to change the way I thought, it opened the door to the blessings that God had for me all along.

I was actually limiting God by my small thinking; my philosophy, my core values were being shaved away slowly by allowing the foxes in to rob me day by day

Every believer needs to have a clear biblical philosophy, and it must be based solely on the Word of God, marinated in the Holy Spirit bring life to you!

Without it, you will be tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine.

We get our filters muddied by this world, renewing your mind and spending time with him cleans those filters so you are flowing properly