

Recovered In Christ

Recovery IS Deliverance

Deliverance: The action of being rescued or set free

***“Deliverance from the power
of the evil one comes through
definite resistance on the
ground of the Cross.”***

- J. O. FRASER

For more information about permanent recovery please visit

www.laylanadda.wordpress.com

What is Deliverance?

“The believer needs to have thorough knowledge and understanding of their (evil spirits) ways and works, and of the laws of the spirit, and how to keep in mastery of spirit in all the vicissitudes of life. As there are (1) degrees of deception, and degrees of possession and deliverance from possession; so there are (2) degrees of victory over the devil; (3) degrees of temptation, and victory over temptation. The power to co-operate with the Holy Spirit in the wielding of Christ's authority will also be in degrees, and gained according to the aggressive spiritual strength obtained by overcoming the devil in his various workings; just as victory over sin deepens in its strength as the man overcomes temptation to sin; and victory over the world (1 John 5: 4-5) is increasingly known by faith in the Son of God. These degrees of overcoming power with the consequent degree of reward, are to be clearly seen in the Lord's call to the churches recorded in the Apocalypse. Degrees also of the future authority in the reigning with Christ are indicated in His words in one parable, "Be thou ruler over ten cities..." (Luke 19: 17-19).

The believer delivered from deception and possession by the spirits of evil, must now learn to walk in personal victory over the devil at every point, if he is to have the fullest victory over the powers of darkness. For this, just as he needs to know the Lord Christ in all the aspects of His Name and character, so as to draw upon His power in living union with Him, so the believer must learn to know the adversary in his various workings, as described in his names and character, that he may be able to discern his presence, and all his wicked spirits, wheresoever they may be, either in attacks upon himself, in others, or working as "world-rulers" of the darkness in the world.” - **Jessie Penn-Lewis**

(In a small half-empty chapel, Frank Buchman who would later become the founder of the Oxford Group from which ALL 12 step fellowships spring from, listened to **Jessie Penn-Lewis** preach on the Cross of Christ, which led to a religious experience.

"I thought of those six men back in Philadelphia who I felt had wronged me. They probably had, but I'd got so mixed up in the wrong that I was the seventh wrong man.... I began to see myself as God saw me, which was a very different picture than the one I had of myself. I don't know how you explain it, I can only tell you I sat there and realized how my sin, my pride, my selfishness and my ill-will, had eclipsed me from God in Christ.... I was the centre of my own life. That big "I" had to be crossed out. I saw my resentments against those men standing out like tombstones in my heart. I asked God to change me and He told me to put things right with them. It produced in me a vibrant feeling, as though a strong current of life had suddenly been poured into me and afterwards a dazed sense of a great spiritual shaking-up.”

Buchman wrote six letters of apology to the board members asking their forgiveness for harboring ill will. Buchman regarded this as a foundation experience and in later years frequently referred to it with his followers.)

Recovered In Christ Work Document 1

Here are a few of the basic things we use in Genuine Deliverance for permanent Recovery. Which includes repentance and real 12 step work. BUT - it's not a set formula!! We use many different approaches but our foundation relies on the Bible!

First:

Are you rock solid on the fact that you are helpless and hopeless. This is very important. Do you accept that you and your sin and way of life have no way out. This is total surrender to God. Not that you will be some empty robot shell that God will possess. NO! It means that your old self must die. You have to believe, accept and vocalize your surrender. Basically, do you believe that you are doomed and need God to save you? If your answer is yes, get on your knees and tell God that you are hopeless and helpless without Him, that you need him to step into your heart and life, and that you're willing to do anything to let him save you.

Second:

Are you ready to turn your life and will over to God (not that he will possess you and control you like a robot) are you willing to **co-operate with God and carry out His Will** - (His Will is spelled out in the entirety of the Bible - no inspiration or 'command' from God will EVER contradict His word) Are you ready for God to be your employer? The leader. Head of the house of your life. That your daily question and seeking is to get to know this God of the heavens and the earth - and what His plan is. For that to be your focus. This is the subtle yet powerful element of step 3 - do you surrender your personal ambition for God's plan - not even knowing what that is yet? YES or NO?

If yes - get on your knees and say "God, I offer myself to you. To build with me and do with me as you Will. Relieve me of the bondage of self - that I may better do your will. Take away my difficulties that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of your power, your love and your way of life. May I do your will always. God, I pray that you give me the willingness to humble myself. Open my eyes to my complete and total depravity. Have mercy on me Jesus and please help me to truly submit my will and align myself intelligently and co-operatively with you. Amen."

Third:

Go through your life, past and present. Write down every sin that you can think of! It can be as simple as a grocery list type list. Any lies/half truths you've told, Anyone you've lied to, gossiped about, had sex outside of marriage with, who are you angry at, what are you angry about, fears. Who you are afraid of, what do you fear., people you have harmed, things you are ashamed of, secrets, etc., also, any occult things you've been a part of. You need to write them down. Tarot card readings, seances, shaman practices, anything. Anything that has drawn your mind into passivity - **Studying and referring to the 4 absolutes and the book**

of James in the Bible and the 10 Commandments is a great COMPASS to see what exactly we need to be listing! Absolute Honesty, Unselfishness, Love and Purity. Those are God's standards.

This is the most important part. You have to be completely honest!

Example:

- I'm afraid of living in grinding poverty for a long time
- I slept with so and so in 1989 and we had freaky sex
- I slept with...
- I lied on a resume in 1985
- I'm angry at my mother for not caring about my life
- I'm afraid to leave my house
- I'm afraid I'll never get married
- I'm selfish that I worry about myself and life alot
- etc. etc.
- masturbation
- pornography
- idolatry (worship and adoration of anything other than God)

Focus on where you've been selfish, dishonest, self-seeking, afraid.
List all the sins you can think of.

It's very important to list the things that you've participated in that have been **forbidden in the Bible**

- Tarot card reading
- Horoscopes
- Palm reading
- Chakra work
- Crystal gazing
- guided meditations
- etc. etc.

We then begin to vocally confess, renounce and pray against all of our "contracts" with the Devil! Humble yourself and do this in a real and authentic way with your sponsor/mentor. Be real. Expose your true self and motives. And then sit with God and jot down the creative ways to amend these situations, and approach people you've harmed - and get deeper and deeper into prayer, Bible reading (Collective NOT selective study of the Bible) and meditation to safeguard back sliding.

After this is done - continue to share with your leaders and elders, being watchful against the spirit of defensiveness and rebellion. Being vigilant to remain truthful and genuine and sincere, through a REAL willingness to be vulnerable and transparent. God will not do this for you or to you. YOU must humble yourself. And start to really get to know the Bible and allow the Holy Spirit to interpret and apply in you and your life what Jesus was talking about in HIS Sermon on the Mount!!

Avoid discussing the work you are doing with those who will subtly or openly try to talk you out of it because they live in sin.

We use a Bible study called **Easy English Bible commentaries**. Each chapter in the Old/New Testament is broken down in the most simple Bible Study we've ever read – we've read a lot of incredible commentary etc. through the years, but this by far is the best one, especially for people who want to learn and read for themselves what the word of God is saying. It's meant for students of English as a Second language - its simplicity keeps the focus on the WORD of God rather than human opinion of it. We begin by reading the first section in the New Testament (The Gospel according to Matthew). Once we get through the 4 Gospels, we then keep going a chapter at a time and also incorporate reading a chapter from the Old Testament at a time!!! This CHANGES everything.

Matthew <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/matthew-lbw.htm>

The main page for all of these chapters is: <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/index.htm>

Jessie Penn-Lewis' book "**War on the Saints**" is a mandatory text for all Christians seeking a fuller walk in Freedom with the Real Holy Spirit. It is a course in exposing the deceptive work of the Unholy spirit:

http://www.the-tribulation-network.com/Deception/war_on_the_saints/wots_contents.htm

Here are some solid prayers to start!! They are ALL taken from the Bible and put together in a simple yet powerful book of prayer: **Prayers that route demons and break curses** by **John Eckhardt**

Prayers of Renunciations:

I renounce all lust, perversion, immorality, uncleanness, impurity, and sexual sin in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all witchcraft, sorcery, divination, and occult involvement in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all ungodly soul ties and immoral relationships in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all hatred, anger, resentment, revenge, retaliation, unforgiveness, and bitterness in the name of Jesus.

I forgive any person who has ever hurt me, disappointed me, abandoned me, mistreated me, or rejected me in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all addiction to drugs, alcohol, or any legal or illegal substance that has bound me in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all pride, haughtiness, arrogance, vanity, ego, disobedience, and rebellion in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all envy, jealousy, and covetousness in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all fear, unbelief, and doubt in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all selfishness, self-will, self-pity, self-rejection, self-hatred, and self-promotion in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all ungodly thought patterns and belief systems in the name of Jesus.

I renounce all ungodly covenants, oaths, and vows made by myself or my ancestors in the name of Jesus.

Prayers for Divine Safety and Protection:

I cover myself, my family, and my possessions with the blood of Jesus.
Let the fire of God surround and protect my life from all destruction.
Let the angel of the Lord encamp around me and protect me (Psalm 34:7).
Let Your glory be my covering and protect my back.
Hold me up, and I will be safe (Psalm 119:117).
The name of Jesus is a strong tower. I run into it, and I am safe (Proverbs 18:10).
Lord, You make me to dwell in safety (Psalm 4:8).
Set me in safety from them who puff at me (Psalm 12:5).
Let me dwell in my land safely (Leviticus 26:5).
Lead me safely, and I will not fear. Let the sea overwhelm my enemies (Psalm 78:53).
Let me lie down and rest in safety (Job 11:18; Isaiah 14:30).
I will dwell in safety; nothing shall make me afraid (Ezekiel 34:28).
Keep me as the apple of Your eye, and hide me under the shadow of Your wings (Psalm 17:8).
I will trust in the covert of Your wings (Psalm 61:4).
In the shadow of Your wings will I trust (Psalm 57:1).
Be my covert from the storm and the rain (Isaiah 4:6).
Be my covert from the wind and the tempest (Isaiah 32:2).
Cover my head in the day of battle (Psalm 140:7).
Cover me with the shadow of Your hand (Isaiah 51:16).
Cover me with Your feathers (Psalm 91:4).
Be my defense and refuge (Psalm 59:16).
Defend and deliver me (Isaiah 31:5).
Let Your glory be my defense (Isaiah 4:5).
Defend me from those who rise up against me (Psalm 59:1).
Lord, You are my shield and my hiding place (Psalm 119:114).
Lord, surround me with Your shield of protection (Psalm 5:12).
Bring them down, O Lord, my shield (Psalm 59:11).
Let Your truth be my shield (Psalm 91:4).
Lord, You are my sun and shield (Psalm 84:11).
Lord, You are my shield and exceeding great reward (Genesis 15:1).
I will not be afraid of ten thousand that have set themselves against me, because You are a shield for me (Psalm 3:1–6).
You are a strong tower from the enemy (Psalm 61:3).

Amen!

Continue in the next document for renouncing and removing occult activity from your life.

DO not worship or idolize or make into a ritual this guide. If you do, you will nullify its effect to help you – and you will not be fooling God.

Recovered In Christ Work Document 2

Below are a few of the basic things we use in Genuine Deliverance. Which includes destroying occult items and blessing your home. BUT - it's not a set formula!! We use many different approaches but our foundation relies on the Bible! We have found it most effective to:

- 1.) Start with prayer - close your eyes, bow your heads, get grounded in a couple of psalms like psalm 23 & 27
- 2.) Remove every object that you are uneasy about. In the days and months to come, God will CONTINUE to show you objects/jewellery etc. that need to be removed.
- 3.) Destroy the objects. Burn them (safely) or wrap them and throw them in the garbage.
- 4.) Walk around your home, from room to room reading out loud from John and from the psalms!
- 5.) Have one of you anoint the rest of you with oil.
- 6.) Pray...pray...pray for wisdom!

And remember - don't do this alone if you can avoid it! But do it soon!! We have had SO much experience with the reality of what we're telling you - it's real, these objects are cursed and a doorway for evil into your life.

Notice in Judges 10:6 that the Israelites after turning away from God and worshipping other gods turned back to him after a lot of suffering....but they continued to hold on to their "idols" - objects etc. and God finally took them seriously when they removed them in verse 16!!!

"Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD. They served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and the gods of Aram, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the Ammonites and the gods of the Philistines. And because the Israelites forsook the LORD and no longer served him, ⁷ he became angry with them. He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and the Ammonites, ⁸ who that year shattered and crushed them. For eighteen years they oppressed all the Israelites on the east side of the Jordan in Gilead, the land of the Amorites. ⁹ The Ammonites also crossed the Jordan to fight against Judah, Benjamin and Ephraim; Israel was in great distress. ¹⁰ Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD, "We have sinned against you, forsaking our God and serving the Baals."

¹¹ The LORD replied, "When the Egyptians, the Amorites, the Ammonites, the Philistines, ¹² the Sidonians, the Amalekites and the Maonites oppressed you and you cried to me for help, did I not save you from their hands? ¹³ But you have forsaken me and served other gods, so I will no longer save you. ¹⁴ Go and cry out to the gods you have chosen. Let them save you when you are in trouble!"

¹⁵ But the Israelites said to the LORD, "We have sinned. Do with us whatever you think best, but please rescue us now." ¹⁶ Then they got rid of the foreign gods among them and served the LORD. And he could bear Israel's misery no longer.

I thank you God for forgiving me of everything I've ever done wrong, because of what your Son, Jesus did for me. For what he FINISHED on the cross. I pray for wisdom. I pray that I may be given power to obey you in everything that I do. I hear your knock and I open the door, and let you in. I have heard the gospel and I believe. I repent and believe in you alone. I place my trust in you alone as my Savior and as my substitute on the cross.

You are my personal Lord and Savior. I thank you for living and dying for me. I believe that You are the Son of God and the only door to eternal life. I believe and put my trust in you that you died for my sins on the cross over 2000 years ago and rose from the dead by the power of your Holy Spirit. That same Holy Spirit Power is greater than all other powers and has already defeated Satan and his demons on the cross over 2000 years ago. I silence all other influences and interference. I renounce all supernatural works and manifestations that are not in accordance with scripture, and I strip you of your shield of invisibility. Thank you God for destroying the works of the Devil in my life.

Father, I come before you in Jesus' name, and I thank you for giving me all power and all authority over all demons. I renounce Satan and I return all of the powers and gifts he has tried to seduce me with.

I am covered by the righteous blood of Jesus. I break and loose myself from all the curses that I have placed on myself, and all the curses that have been placed on me. It is the Power of Jesus Christ Himself that rebukes you Satan. I take my authority and I bind the strongman over my mind, will, emotions, and over my home, in Jesus name. I command you to leave this area now in Jesus' name. I bind up every demon that was sent to me, transferred to me, or followed me, and I command you to come out of my conscious, subconscious, unconscious mind, all parts of my body, will, emotions, and personality.

I silence my spirit guides, and I bind my ungodly power with the blood of Jesus Christ. I renounce all pride, arrogance, and self-sufficiency in the Name of Jesus Christ. I command every single part of me, known and unknown, into the very fiber of my being, to submit to God, and obey only the Voice Of The One True God, the great I AM, our Lord Jesus The Christ. It is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself that rebukes you Satan and all of your demons. God I humbly ask you for the faith that will cling to you.

I do not conform to the pattern of this world, but I am transformed by the renewing of my mind. Then I will be able to test and approve what God's will is--your good, pleasing and perfect will.

God, I offer myself to you, to build with me and to do with me as you will. Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do your Will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them, may bear witness to those I would help, of your Power, your Love, and your Way of life. May I do your Will always.

Dear God, thank you for bringing us together. I ask you to draw us close to you now, and help us to pray in the way your word teaches. In the name of Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, I ask you God to come against and rebuke the Evil spirits surrounding us now weaving destruction in our lives. I close my mind from any influence or interference not from God. My mind belongs to me and I will use it to glorify God alone. It is the Lord Jesus Himself that rebukes you Satan and all of your demons. God, I now turn away from everything that has seduced me from you, and I ask you to save me and deliver me. Because you said you would. And you are the Author of all Truth, and Love and Mercy. Bless the Lord, Bless His name, Bless His heart, who chases after sinners, and exalts the humble. Please God, help us to be with you as you are with us. Amen.

BREAKING TIES OBJECTS PRAYER:

Dear God, I renounce every power I've called upon by keeping this object. I repent, and ask you to forgive me and release me from whatever contract I have made (conscious and unconscious) with spirits that have gained access into my life through this object. In the Name of Jesus Christ I command all demons, evil spirits and agents of Satan that are attached to this object to leave immediately. I seal the demonic portal associated with this object, shut forever.

I forbid any demons or satanic influence of any kind from transmitting, or coming through in any way and attaching to me or anyone else. I break the curse attached with this object now and forever, it will not be used against anyone ever again, in the Name of Jesus Christ. It is because of the shed blood of the Son of God Himself that has redeemed me and that has the power to break every curse and every chain of the Enemy. It is the Lord God Himself that comes against every unclean spirit and dismisses you immediately. Amen

THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND

JESSIE PENN-LEWIS

(2 Cor. 11:3, A.V.) "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."

THERE is a great battle today over the use and control of the mind, not only in the world, but among the children of God.

1. The fact of a "war" declared by Paul.

First note the fact that the Apostle declares that there is a "war" in which he is engaged. "*My warfare*," he says, "is not waged according to the flesh." This is in accord with his statements in other parts of his writings.

2. The battle for the mind described.

We see there is an aspect of the war described in this passage which has to do with the *mind*. "Thereby can I overthrow the *reasonings* of the disputer." In verse 4 (A.V.) we read of a "pulling down of strongholds". The Apostle seems to infer that the mind is a "stronghold" which has to be pulled down, and every rebel thought in it made captive.

A "stronghold" is generally held by an *enemy*, and truly there is an enemy holding the stronghold of the mind, according to 2 Cor. 4:4, where it says that the "god of this world" (age) has "blinded the *minds* of them which believe not".

3. The condition of the mind by nature.

In various parts of the Pauline epistles we can gather very clearly the state of mind, when held by the enemy as a stronghold. It is described in some cases as a "*reprobate mind*" (Rom. 1:28), a "*blinded mind*" (2 Cor. 3:14), a darkened mind, causing men to walk in the "*vanity of their minds*" (Eph. 4:17-19), intruding into things which the mind cannot fathom, "vainly puffed up" by a "*fleshly mind*" (Col. 2:18).

In Rom. 8:7, the Apostle says, "The *carnal mind* is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (A.V.). This is confirmed in Col. 1:21, where those who are unregenerated are described as "enemies" in the "*mind*", and therefore alienated from God. We therefore clearly see how, in the natural man, the mind is "darkened", "puffed up" by the flesh, empty and vain in its thoughts, carnal because governed by the flesh, and in all its activities-whether apparently "good" or visibly "bad"-at enmity with God.

4. The unregenerate mind the stronghold of Satan.

The stronghold of the mind of man is therefore the strategic centre of the "war" with the "god of this age", because it is primarily through the mind

that he holds his captives in his power, and *through the mind* of those captives transmits his:

- (1) Poison into the minds of others, and his
- (2) Plans and schemes for arousing those souls to active rebellion against God.

The *mind of the Christian* is also the strategic centre of the "war on the saints" which Satan wages with ceaseless and fiendish skill. And for this reason the *mind is the vehicle for the Spirit of God*, dwelling in the spirit of the believer, to transmit to others the truth of God, which alone can remove the deceptions of Satan which fill the minds of all who are in the darkness of nature.

If the Holy Spirit is dwelling in the regenerate spirit have you considered the question of His *outlet*? If it were only by speech you would be an oracle! But there are no "oracles" on earth now. The "*oracles of God*" are the Scriptures. The Word of God is being displaced not only by the Higher Critics, but by many of God's own people by their taking supernatural "revelations" as being of equal authority with the written Scriptures. There are wrecked lives because they have turned from the Word of God to what they call direct revelation. There is a direct revelation by God the Holy Ghost illuminating the Word of God, and putting it into the spirit, but not apart from the Scriptures.

5. *The Holy Spirit and the mind of the believer.*

If the *mind is the vehicle of the Spirit* it is absolutely necessary that the Spirit of God should have full possession of it, with every "rebellious thought" brought into captivity to Christ. The Holy Spirit, dwelling in the spirit, needs the mind as a channel for expression, but it may be so blocked up, and filled with other things that He is unable to transmit all He desires to do. A "blocked" mind means the spirit unexpressed, and a spirit unexpressed is a stoppage of the outflow of the Spirit of God to others.

6. *The mind of the Christian not fully delivered.*

This explains why numbers of God's children are unable to hold the truth of God which they hear, or to apply it to their lives, or express it to others. The mind *has never been fully delivered from the grip of the enemy*. Shall I put it crudely, and say that many get new "hearts", but they keep their old "heads!" They do not realize that unless the hold of the adversary, which he has through the fallen nature of man, is removed from the mind, he has a position of vantage in the life of the believer, for attack and *for hindrance in active service*. How many there are who have "minds" that never "think a thing out".

Devoted children of God, with hearts full of love, but "minds" full of all kinds of mixture - minds that have not been renewed and delivered from the interference of the enemy. Consequently they have a strange lack of spiritual perception. They may get "flashes of light", and follow the "flash"

- which often like a will-o'-the-wisp leads them astray - but they are not intelligent in their spiritual vision. They do not know that God is able, not only to deliver the mind from the enemy's grip but also to renew it, so that it becomes as clear as crystal, with "every rebellious thought brought into captivity. "

We have seen that one reason why the liberation of the mind is so important is because it is the vehicle of the spirit. Has it never struck you how extraordinary it is that the children of God can hear so much, and *express* so little? If you will ask one and the other to intelligently transmit something of what they have heard, they cannot do it. They have listened to volumes of truth for years, and yet they have no power to transmit, and help a soul in need. And many of these hearers will tell you that they have received a Baptism of the Spirit! The reason for this lies in the *unrenewed mind*. They may truly have received the Holy Spirit, but speaking reverently, He is "locked up" in the spirit, and cannot get through the blocked channel of the mind. One reason is that many children of God do not soak themselves, so to speak, in God's thoughts. They think that to read a text in the morning is enough, and so they do not get the mind fully renewed. All the working of the old mind is enmity against God, and that is why you find people *prejudiced* over truth. Whenever you find a man prejudiced over some truth he does not understand, it always means that there is some activity of the old mind. The mind is like a seed plot. We do not realize what we are taking in, or sowing in the ground for future use. If you only make a remark about some person you have *sown a seed*, and if it is a critical thought, it is there ready to blaze into a "prejudice" at the first opportunity.

All this is so true that it is easy to see now why the Apostle describes the "mind" as a stronghold which has to be taken for Christ, and brought into subjection to Him. It may not have occurred to us that much which we have looked upon as "natural" disability in the use of our minds is to some extent the work of the enemy, who pours into the mind which has never been fully taken out of his power, his own visions, thoughts, ideas and ways.

7. *The need of the mind to be fully renewed.*

Now the question is, how can the mind become fully renewed, for if we are children of God, by the very entry of the truth of God, there has been a partial renewal. Conversion itself is described in the Bible as, in the first instance, a "*change of mind*." This is the meaning of the word "repent."

Repentance is "to recover one's senses" and come to a "right understanding." So repentance describes on the one hand first a "change of mind", to be accompanied by a change of heart.

8. *The Cross the place of deliverance.*

But for full renewal of the mind we have to go to the Cross, and learn its message that "our old man was crucified" with Christ. This is inclusive of the old carnal, darkened, fleshly mind. This comes out clearly in the

words of Eph. 4:22-23, as following the Apostle's description of the darkened and empty mind in verse 17 and 18. The "old man" crucified is here bidden to be "put off" by the believer so that he may be "*renewed in the spirit of his mind*." The way of renewal, therefore, is VIA CALVARY.

The first need is the knowledge of the state of mind by nature, and that a "change of mind" at conversion does not go deep enough to deliver the soul from the power of the enemy in his thought life, and mental activities.

Then there must be a deliberate and definite "putting off" of the "old man" in the aspect of the old carnal mind, for the bringing captive to Christ of every thought. What is wanted, then, is to recognize that the *un-renewed mind is part of the old creation* that has to be put off at the Cross. Remember that God does just what you trust Him to do. We need to realize that what God wants is even a "cold-blooded" act of faith, as the believer says "I trust Thee to do this." We would like Him to do the whole work at once, but He has planned that we depend upon Him step by step for everything. Some of you have come to understand your position of being crucified with Christ upon the Cross. The Holy Spirit will now take you into the details of all that this means. He may throw light on the "circumference" to show where the old life is lodged, so that it may be dealt with. When Christ is your life, Christ is enthroned at the center. That new Center life (*Christ at the center*) has to be worked out as you hold the position perpetually, "**crucified**."

Then the Holy Spirit will throw the light upon every part of the circumference that is as yet un-dealt with. Today we are dealing with the mind. Here you need to say "Lord I trust Thee to give me a renewed mind, and I agree to part with the old one." When someone speaks to you of another in a manner likely to cause a bias in your mind you say, "Please don't. I have not met the person. I should like to meet him without any preconceived ideas about him." But supposing you today hand this old mind to the Cross, and trust God to give you a new one, *do you think the enemy will give up his ground without a fight?* Do you think that every "rebellious thought" is going to be brought into subjection easily? This brings us to the question of:

9. *The mind and its practical liberation.*

We must recognize that the "mind" *continues* to be the strategic battle ground, even when we have claimed the deliverance of Calvary. We must know how the liberation of the mind has to be actually worked out, and for this the Spirit of God needs our active co-operation. The believer needs to recognize that the attacks of the emissaries of Satan are *primarily directed at the mind*. Notice how Paul realizes this, and describes the mind of the Christian as the strategic battle ground for the enemy. "I fear," he writes to the Corinthians, "lest by any means ... *your minds should be corrupted* ...", and then he tells them how this would come about. "If he that comes preaches another Jesus ... or if ye receive an-

other spirit," or "another Gospel" (2 Cor. 11:3-4, A.V.). So the danger of the Christian is false teaching getting into the *mind*, and diverting him from the simple Gospel of Christ. It is to this end, that Satan transforms himself into an Angel of Light.

How few realize that Satan can give spurious light to the mind, even light about a "Jesus" who is not the Lord, and minister "another spirit" which is not the Holy Spirit, and through his instruments preach a "gospel" which is not the Gospel of the grace of God.

The danger which the Apostle wrote about to the Corinthians is increased to-day a thousand-fold, because of the psychic forces that are at work in the world. Because, too, of the tremendous emphasis upon, and development of the mental life at the present time, and because the enemy is actively at work seeking to break down the mental powers of God's children through the strain of the conflict of life. There are grave dangers all about us from counterfeit guidance, counterfeit visions and counterfeit plans, all coming from *the enemy's work upon the mind*. Never was there a time when believers so needed the "helmet of salvation" to cover their heads from the foe. The air is full of the suggestions of the prince of the "power of the air", flashing thoughts and ideas into the minds of men.

Take what is called the "Higher Criticism." Picture a man, who is without the knowledge of the new birth through the Cross of Christ, reading in his study. Wonderful "thoughts" which come into his mind, are given out as the result of his own thinking, and the world marvels at the "brilliance" of this scholar. Alas, the "brilliance" of a mind which the Word of God declares is *blinded by the god of this age*, and energized by the "spirit which now works in the children of disobedience," *is really darkness in the sight of God*. What the un-renewed mind is capable of producing under the energizing of the spirits of Satan can be seen, for example in the Text Book of Christian Science, where words seem to be spun out as a spider spins his web, as empty as the gossamer threads composing it.

The dangerous output of "minds" thus wrought upon by the prince of the power of the air, will increase as the dispensation hastens to its close, and the children of God will be caught in the meshes of these "fantasies" unless they have their own minds renewed, and kept sober by the truth of God.

They need in the face of these dangers, to guard against overwork, which may bring about overstrain of the mind, making them incapable of sober judgment.

10. The practical way of victory.

How is the mind of the child of God to be actually set free from the enemy's control and renewed by the Spirit of God? We have seen that

there is deliverance *via Calvary*, but there is also a practical line of action on the part of the believer. The first question to be faced is one concerning control.

There may be a wrong thought about this which must not be overlooked. You are quite aware that your mind is out of your control, and you have been praying that God would "control" it independently of you. But all in vain. Sometimes your mind is full of wandering thoughts, and your imagination inflamed or it is heavy, passive or sluggish and unusable. *It is practically out of your own control, and is uncontrolled by God.* What is the reason? You may never have taken your "mind" out of the control of the enemy (2 Cor. 4:4), and deliberately handed it to the death of the Cross, and trusted God to give you a new mind. Numbers of God's people know that their minds are neither under God's control nor their own. And it is often because the enemy has put a thought in their minds which has laid hold of the mind until it is mastered by it. Whenever you find a person who can only talk of "one thing" it is best to shun them. It always tells the tale that the mind of that one is not under control.

If God is controlling your thoughts and mind, you can *choose* what you think and *when* you will speak. But if you say, "If I don't speak what is in my mind at once I shall lose it," *then you had better "lose it."* How many pour upon you their "thinks" and never heed what effect it will have upon you. Oh how we all need some sober light upon the realm of the mind. Recently a letter came to me in which I was told of a Christian man who said, "My wife was a most beautiful Christian. But suddenly the thought was suggested in the middle of the night that she had committed the unpardonable sin and now she is in a mental home and I can do nothing, and my little children are without their mother." The minister said to the poor man that it seemed to be of the enemy, so they knelt down and the minister asked that if Satan had shot this thing into the mind of the wife, the Lord would prove it to the husband, through the victory of Calvary. Praise God, within a fortnight she was back in her home.

11. The new mind and its characteristics.

When the mind is renewed, the Spirit of God fulfills the promise of God, where He says, "I will put my laws in their hearts, and *in their minds will I write them*" (Heb. 10:16). Thus we obtain the "mind" of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16). What that "mind" is we read in Phil. 2:5-8. The practical life is changed only so far as we are "transformed" by the "renewing" of the "mind." Christ's "mind" was to obey God, even unto the death of the Cross. That "mind" in us becomes armor. "Arm yourselves with the same mind" (1 Pet. 4:1), i.e., Christ's mind towards the Cross. "*Christ suffered*," we say, and as our minds dwell upon His sufferings, and the Holy Spirit shows us the separation from sin which fellowship with Him brings about, we too choose to suffer, and we are "armed" by having His mind. Thus the new mind becomes "stayed upon God," instead of being tossed

about by distracting thoughts. And a mind stayed on God means perfect peace.

12. *The "new mind" as the vehicle of the Holy Spirit.*

In Eph. 1:18, we read, "The eyes of your understanding" being "filled with light." Here is the mind illumined by the Spirit. It is the vehicle of light. You *see* with the mind, you *feel* with the spirit. David said, "My *spirit* made diligent search." The mind is filled with light from God in the spirit, illuminating the mind. This brings into action the perceptive faculty of the mind, whereby the believer is able to spiritually discern spiritual things. The various marginal readings of 1 Cor. 2:13 show the new mind in use. It is able to "discriminate", "examine," "combine," "compare" and "explain" spiritual things which the "natural" man knows nothing about.

The perceptive faculty of the mind renewed by the Spirit of God enables us more clearly to know how to prove the good and acceptable will of God "If a man walketh in the day he stumbleth not," said the Lord. In broad daylight a man does not need to fall over stones in his path before he sees them. And so it is spiritually. With a new mind filled with light by the Spirit, the believer sees the path wherein he should walk, and discerns the will of God clearly without the confusion and perplexities of the partially renewed mind.

13. *The guarding of the new mind.*

There is no part of the renewed believer which does not require guarding. This is especially true of the mind which has been renewed. First there is a "girding" up of the "loins of the mind" (1 Pet. 1:13), which is necessary. This means that you must never let the mind become "slack", or careless in its thinking, or it will soon fall a prey to the watching enemy. The "mind" should never be idle, or without "grist for the mill!" It must be active if it is in a normal condition. The Apostle also bids the believer see that he does not admit an "anxious" thought (Phil. 4:6), but at once to transmit any that come, to God. If he does this, the "peace of God" will garrison his mind, and keep it in peace. But he must do more, *he must give the mind work to do*, and let it have true, honest, just, pure and lovely things to "think" about (see Phil. 4:8).

Then again, the believer with the new mind must "think soberly" (Rom. 12:3) especially about himself. He must avoid dwelling on "high things" (Rom. 12:16), and in the path of soberness take no step which is not the outcome of deliberate judgment and decision. Every "thought" led captive, means the deliberate weighing of every word and action in the light of God. Thus we shall be able to walk with God in these days of peril, and be sober when others are carried away by the spurious workings of the enemy.

Do not follow or trust what we may describe as "flashes" of light to the mind, because the Holy Ghost in your spirit works out into the mind His

light in calm, intelligent, deliberate, illumination from within. Because of the dangers today *we cannot trust anything that comes from without*. It is not that these "flashes" are necessarily wrong, but that you cannot trust them. Neither can anything said on the impulse of the moment be trusted.

Supposing a thought comes, it should be turned over and over and pondered over in the presence of God. "Am I to take this thought as from Thee, if so please bring it back to me again and again, and show me." Thus you will learn to walk carefully or accurately in the will of God. We need to be encased in the armor of Christ. God dwelling in our spirit, pouring the light into our mind, according to His Written Word, will enable us to carefully and prayerfully walk with Him.