

1 April 2018

## The will of God: Pt 4 The battle for our mind.

This is our fourth teaching on the topic – The will of God. In our previous study we established the need to discern the Lord's will by asking and listening and then proving His will by stepping out in faith. In this study we establish the battle for our mind which effects our ability to prove the will of God unless we mortify the deeds of the flesh and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

### 1. We are to renew our mind to prove the will of God.

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom.12: 2).

### 2. There is a war between our members and our mind where our flesh brings us into captivity unto sin.

"But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Rom.7: 23).

### 3. Satan adds to the confusion by corrupting our minds as he beguiled Eve.

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" (2Cor.11: 3).

### 4. To renew our mind – die to the deeds of the body (the flesh, our members).

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live" (Rom.8: 13). See also Col.3: 5.

### 5. To renew our mind – bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2Cor.10: 5).

### An illustration to help apply the teaching to our life today.

There was a TV program where a pastor who previously had a drinking problem assured his folk that it was God's will for him to preach to those drinking alcohol in the village, but then you find him later drunk and treating the woman with disrespect.

Question to think about.

Does your flesh bring into captivity your mind to sin or do you bring every thought into captivity unto Christ?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

If you do not bring into captivity every thought unto Christ than your flesh will bring you into captivity to the law of sin which is in your members.

If you do not mortify the deeds of the flesh – the law of your members will bring you into captivity to the law of sin which is in your members.

If you are brought into captivity to the law of sin which is in your members you will not be able to renew your mind, and you will be conformed to this world and so unable to prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. So let us remember – there is battle for our mind which effects our ability to renew our mind and prove the will of God. Therefore, mortify the deeds of the flesh and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ, and then prove what is that "good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Rom.12: 2). Amen!