

What did the Apostles teach about the Holy Spirit?

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How does the Holy Spirit relate to my mind?

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How is a person filled with the Holy Spirit?

Two pieces of advice as we continue:

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The Holy Spirit is a *person* – we can't reduce his work to some formula, and will never fully understand it. John 3:8

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We mustn't seek his power *for our sake*, but rather so we can more effectively love and serve God. Acts 8:18-24

Who is Sarx?

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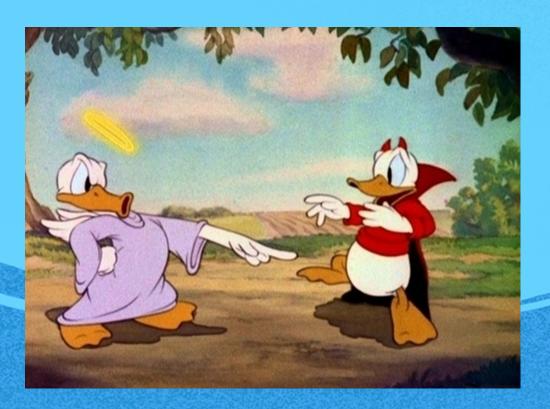


Who is Sarx?

Greek "sarx" = the "flesh" or my "old nature"

His power is **broken** – Rom 6:6

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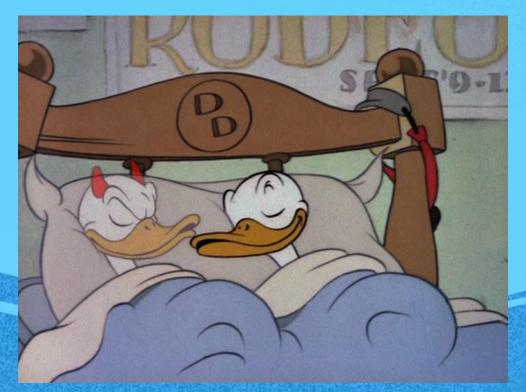
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He has strong *opinions* and tries to influence me – Rom 7:17

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He wants my mind to be his *prisoner* – Rom 7:24

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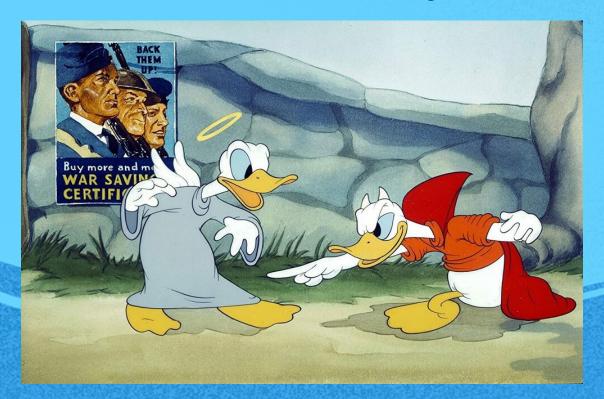
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When I let him *control my thoughts* I lose the power of the Spirit. I cannot please God.

- Rom 8:8

Who is Sarx?



A closer look at the Battle

Rom 8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 8:2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. 8:3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.

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8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 8:10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

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Who are the key players in this conflict?

What is a key battleground?

What does the Spirit want to do?

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Sarx (my old nature) and the Spirit

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Who are the key players in this conflict?
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What is a key battleground?

My mind

What does the Spirit want to do?





TRIP TO STATES Vitaliy Andriiets Ukraine

Please pray hard for my trip to America from May 5th to June 5th. I have many fears and worries, and it feels like the devil is attacking my head and thoughts every day. When I start to worry, my head seems to be paralyzed.

I know this trip is from God, but I haven't had peace about it for several weeks. Sometimes it gets awful. Pray that God will give me peace and pure thoughts filled with Christ.

Who are the key players in this conflict?
Sarx (my old nature) and the Spirit

What is a key battleground?

My mind

What does the Spirit want to do?
Give me freedom from the law of sin

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What does the Spirit want to do?
Give me freedom from the law of sin
Give me life and peace

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What does the Spirit want to do?

Give me freedom from the law of sin

Give me life and peace

What do I need to do?
Set my mind on what the Spirit desires

Who are the key players in this conflict?
Sarx (my old nature) and the Spirit

What is a key battleground?

My mind

What does the Spirit want to do?

Give me freedom from the law of sin Give me life and peace

What do I need to do?

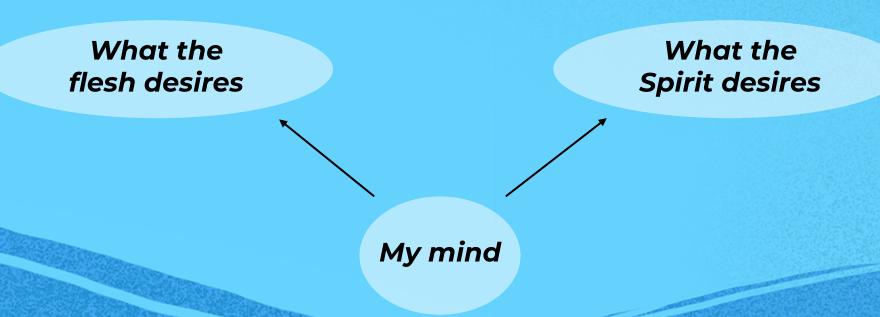
Set my mind on what the Spirit desires Let my thoughts be controlled by the Spirit

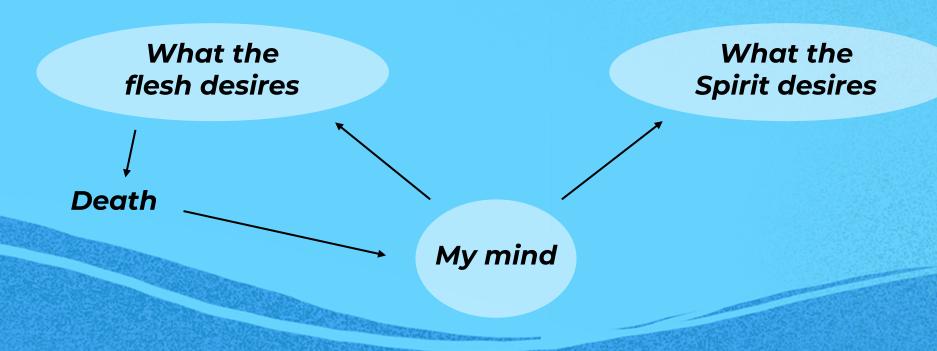


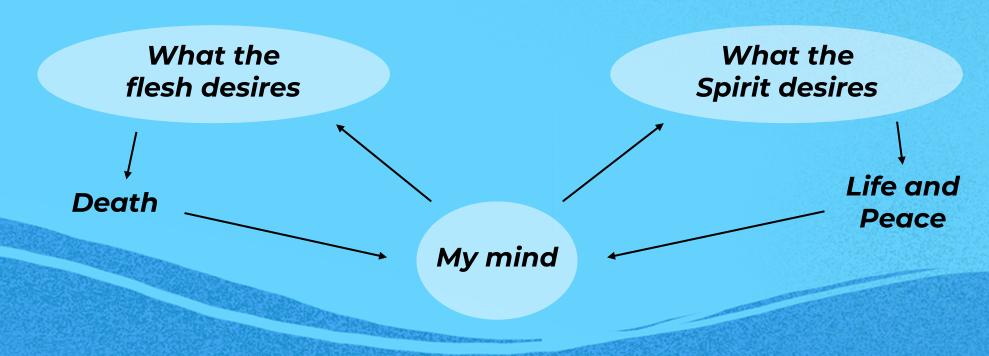
We cannot underestimate the importance of the mind in the work of the Holy Spirit. Whatever controls our mind will also control our attitudes and behavior.

What the Spirit desires

My mind

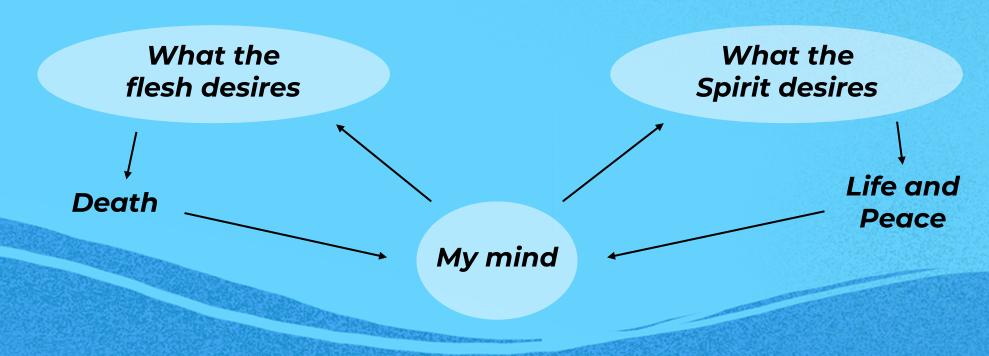




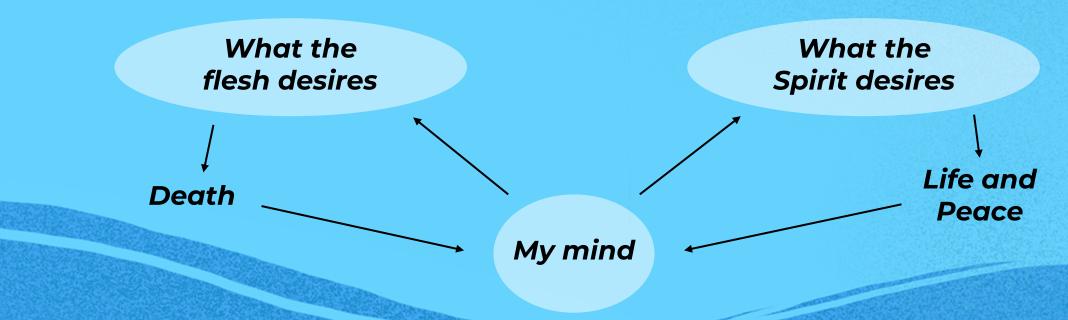








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If we want the life and peace the Holy Spirit promises, we must take responsibility for submitting our thoughts to him.

Practical implications

 The Holy Spirit will not take control of my thoughts if I am focused on what my old nature desires. He will not share a room with his enemy.

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- 2. Without his help my old nature sarx will put me in **bondage** even if I try to resist him.
- 3. I must realize that I am *responsible* for what goes on in my mind.
- 4. When I see the fruit of the sinful nature I need to purposefully place my mind on what the Spirit desires and *let him control* my thoughts.

Application

My mind and the **teaching** of the Spirit

Application

My mind and the *teaching* of the Spirit

My mind and the *convicting* of the Spirit

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My mind and the *teaching* of the Spirit

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My mind and the *leading* of the Spirit

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My mind and the *teaching* of the Spirit

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My mind and the empowering of the Spirit

Personal Response

- Take a moment and listen to Sarx. What are some of the phrases that you hear often in your head from your sinful nature?
- How does it impact you when you listen to his voice?
- Have you ever tried to reason with Sarx? What is the outcome?
- Now look at the things that Sarx said and turn your head. Ask God to speak to you through his Spirit in response to these statements. Write down what he says.
- What is the nature of the Spirit's voice? How does it impact you when you set your mind on what he is saying?