

Who's Got Your Head?

Pastor S. James

www.gracetabernaclehyd.org

Father, this morning, we just come to You, Lord. Your Word says the entrance of Your Word brings light. Therefore, Lord, where there is no word, there is no light. And I pray, Father, that every area of our lives which is dark, we will allow Your Word to come in. Your Word says that Your Word is light unto my feet and a lamp unto my path. If your Word doesn't direct our steps, we are walking in darkness. And I pray, Father, this 11th year, we will allow more than ever before Your Word, Your Spirit to direct our steps. So, even this morning, as we come to the ministry of the Word of God, I pray we will align to your Word; for Your light to enter and allow it to dispel the darkness in us however long the darkness maybe dwelling in us – 20 years, 30 years, 50 years, 60 years, I pray today, Lord, the Word will dissolve the darkness. Every preconceived idea, every stronghold that opposes the knowledge of Jesus Christ, I pray, Father, will be pulled down by the Word, by the Spirit; that will bring every thought will bring to the obedience of Christ Jesus. We wait for You to speak. For in Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Like I said, we have come a long way – 10 years spiritually. Otherwise, it's just a number, okay? We are not doing numerology. But numbers have significance in the Kingdom of God to the point we have a book called the *Book of Numbers*, okay. It's a very important, very special spiritual marker – 10, spiritually speaking. You know, Noah was the 10th from Adam. That was the generation that was the first judge that the worldwide judge. We know only 8 people came through. 8 signifying new beginnings. 7 signifying completion. And 8 signifying new beginnings. Abraham was 10 years in the Promised Land and then, he failed the test, listening to Sarah's voice; never sought God's counsel, created an Ishmael and because of his failure in that judgement, we still are going through a crisis including a report that came today 500 Churches shut down in London; 473 mosques open. But it doesn't matter. But I am telling you how the world is changing because of some mistake some incredible people in God's plan. Your mistake and my mistake is not like Abraham's mistake. When Abraham fails, in 10 years, at the point of 10 years in his judgment, it creates a rippling effect which will go on till the end Jesus comes. Okay? So, remember 10.

When Eliezer is sent to find to a bride for Isaac, he actually goes with 10 camels. Perfect provision for the bride of Christ. Jesus, the Spirit of God comes with complete provision for, if you know the temple, if you read through the accounts of the temple, the tabernacle which was built in the wilderness and the temple that Solomon built, you will see the ten coming over and over from the holy place onwards, everywhere the number 10 completely appears. I am just giving you a random. If you look at David, when his father sent him to check on his brothers, he will change his life. He is sent with 10 loaves of bread and 10 cheeses as the Bible records it. Naomi lost her husband because of the famine and Promised Land goes to Moab; 10 years down the line, they come to judgment she loses all the males in her family. Her husbands, her sons, left with two Moabite daughters-in-law. One chooses to follow God till the end and redemption process begins of Israel begins with one girl who came through at the end of tenth year. So, there are so many things personally in my life. I know I came to the lord in 84; I fought Him for ten years. After the 10th year was over, I said I give in and I gave myself to full time ministry began at the end of ten years. Another 10 years down the line, in 2004, my life took an incredible shift. It changed in a completely unimaginable direction I never knew I ever thought it would happen that way but 10 years down the line, that also shifted. 8 years down the line after that second 10 years, 2012, I had new beginning. So, numbers have played incredible this thing in my life. This is not numerology. This has got to do with God's numbers.

And now, for the Church, we are at the 11th year. 10 years are over. One of the most significant numbers in the Bible connected with number 10 is in *Numbers 14:22*.

Numbers 14:22

²²because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice,

But see that's it. They are neither going into the Promised Land nor will I let you go back into Egypt; they all will wander into the wilderness and die. 10 times. Okay? That's not the vessels. Don't worry about that. They are not going to die. He came to give us life. So, remember; it has significance and spiritually, you receive it and say, "Lord, I want to come through and I

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want to possess my Promised Land, my promised life, You have promised a life to me, I want to inherit my promises, I want to." So, we go to a very familiar text today. *Romans 12:1-2*.

Romans 12:1-2

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, (beseech you, I beg you. The Pastor telling his sheep, "I beg you, my brethren") by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

This is our aim. This is God's destiny for us but statistically speaking, from Adam down to the last man, very few will make it to that point. But that's our destiny. See, for everything, there is a preparation. And it's very important that we prepare ourselves so that we can receive something; like I was telling the young men yesterday, if somebody were to serve you food, even if it is an appetizing food in an incredible dirty plate, unless you are desperate and at the verge of death, you wouldn't eat. It would still put you off. The food is attractive, but the plate is dirty. So, what we do is we wash our plates, you wipe our plates, and, in the hotels, they warm our plates. All kind of stuff they do; you realize because they realize there is a preparation to receive something into that plate, we receive the food. The first one is talking about how we prepare to receive the plans and the purposes of God; there is a preparation. One of the reasons why you must have heard for 10 years and every Church, every part of the world where I have preached first time I tell them the same things – "You want to receive something incredibly beautiful from God, there is a preparation you do the previous day." If your Saturday doesn't define more than any other days of the week because 5 days, you work may be 6th also, you work; but if your Saturday doesn't define your Sunday, what you receive on Sunday will be very little. There is a preparation and the preparation is primarily with your bodies first. Present your bodies a living sacrifice. Not only that, what you are receiving is something from holy God from His holy Word. He says, "Prepare it in a way that your plate is holy and acceptable to the one who is serving not the one who is receiving." In the world, we prepare the plate for the one who is receiving; here, it is the other way around. This is the Server who will not serve holy food into a dirty vessel. So, there is a preparation which we constantly do. Write it down, young kids, what I am telling. You have your diary. That's why, in the beginning of the year, we give you a diary. I don't give you a pen; I give you a dairy. Write because you need to remember these things. It will come of use when you grow up. "*Prepare yourself, holy and acceptable.*" The last hours of Saturday before you go to sleep, try to go to sleep early so you don't come to Church and sleep and nod off. You prepare yourself spiritually and ask God, "Show me, cleanse me, sanctify me; so, tomorrow, when your Word comes, it comes into a body that has been prepared for your holy and acceptable." But the Word the is actually not into body; the Word is actually going into the mind.

The second stage is a preparation of the mind. And the first thing he says you know, the world is full of ideas and ideologies, put it all away.

...Do not be conformed to the patterns of the world...

That means switch your TV off. Stay out of internet, stay out of YouTube. Maybe listen to a message on YouTube but don't watch so that the mind is not conformed to the patterns of the world which very subtly sold to us through incredibly entertaining media. When you come here, you are not listening to the Word; you are fighting the Word because your mind has already conformed to a particular pattern; then, you are coming over a Church which is trying to battle your mind to conform to the pattern of God. So, your mind has to be renewed. The mind is not renewed, you'll never be able to prove and understand the will of God. You need to realize the key is the mind. *1 Peter 4:7* when Peter is talking about the last days. So, unlike the people of the earlier ages, for us, it matters even more – the end of all things is at hand. And it's going to come upon us like the flood came upon Noah's generation. And the first warning is when you know that end is coming, and you don't know when the end will come. The first thing is that, therefore, be serious or clear minded, sober, another version will use the term "clear minded", be serious, clear minded your mind so you are able to understand what is happening around. You see the spiritual shift is taking place all around the world and you realize, spiritually looking, it is not "ache din." Because the Day is coming closer and closer; so, you're clear minded, very sober. You're not looking at the world events and saying "Yes, I am build my mansion." No, you realize it is coming closer and closer because you are clear minded, you're sober minded. Because I'll tell you, you'll hear this through and through the message one sentence probably being repeated. "Whoever has your mind has your body."

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The people in the world, everything they are doing, is directed at your mind. If they know they have your mind today, they know they'll have your body tomorrow. Every advertisement is aimed at your mind. You'll sit before the T.V. you'll watch it, it's all flashing into your mind. Tomorrow, you'll buy that product. That's advertisement plays such a huge impact in today's marketing, it doesn't matter how good the product is, if it is not advertised, it is not sold because they need your mind first. Ideas and ideologies are all taught to us and sold to our minds and our mind is conformed to that. They know your body is gone. So, God says, "Surrender your body, holy and acceptable like a plate that is cleansed to receive the teaching that will renew your mind so that tomorrow, your body will follow where your mind goes, and your mind is following Christ." Otherwise, it doesn't matter. You can sit in a Church all your life. Once you leave, your body will go elsewhere. Because where your mind is today, your body will be tomorrow. You know your body today, but yesterday, your mind told you tomorrow is Sunday. Many of you made certain preparations which is different in your life from other days because your mind already came here one day before and your body followed. And those of you who haven't come, and will come, probably to the middle or the end, is simply because yesterday, your mind did not prepare for today. That's how it works. The world, the devil, through the world, wants our minds. God also wants our mind. And He wants to renew our minds. The devil says, "Don't listen to God's Word." God says, "Don't listen to the world." There is a 'don't' and a there is a 'do' from both. God says,

...do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...

You need to realize; that's why what you see, when you read all the four Gospels, to all those followed Him, often, He would ask the question, "What do you want?" But they'll say, "I want." Take and go. And most of the people, I would like if you read the biblical account 99.9% of the people who followed Him, followed Him for a physical need. But in the *Gospel according to John*, when John points "*Behold the Lamb of God,*" and two of His disciples follow Him, He turns around and says, "*What so you seek?*" And they say, "Where do you live?" He says, "Come, stay with Me." See those, whose minds operated at a bodily level, He gave them what they wanted but He sought who would follow His mind, His teaching. He sought them. They were called the disciples of all nations because Christ wants your mind. Because He knows that if He has your mind, He will have your body. The discipleship is the act of giving your body and your mind daily to Christ. It is a daily process.

And we talk about faith. There are two kinds of faith. There are different kinds of faith in the Bible even among believers. One of faith you see is people doing incredible things. By faith, the power of God flows into them. Do you see? But they don't end well. Their terrible circumstances change their thinking according for that circumstances for certain a period of time and when the trouble passed away and they overcame it, they went back to their old setting. And they will finish badly. And there is another faith which Paul is talking about. "*I have fought the good fight of faith. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith,* where the mind is following Christ till the end." And therefore, through the desert, through the valley, through the mountains, through the trails, the furnace, the prison, till death, that mind follows Christ and the body follows Christ. That's what we are talking about. That's what real faith we are talking about. Faith, like if you were there yesterday, over the years, especially yesterday, the boys will hear recap; faith has many components. The first component of faith is seen in *Romans 10:17*.

Romans 10:17

¹⁷ Faith comes by hearing

That's why I need your ears. I need your ears. Faith comes by hearing. Not hearing anything. Hearing faith that comes not anything that comes. *Faith that comes by hearing, comes by the hearing of Word of God.* The first component is hearing. That's why when we read our Bible, something or the other disturbs us. When we are sitting in the Church, some baby is suddenly tickled by a demon and he started whining or crying or she starts howling because we need to realize – there are supernatural powers actually working. For what? To see that we don't hear the Word because faith comes from hearing. Like in the trip I had, I saw mothers. It was very strange what the mothers did. They said, "What we are going to do is that," the meetings were all in the night. So, through the day, they kept their babies awake. All of them, one way or the other, kept them awake. As soon as they came to Church, they all slept through the message. They said, "We ain't going to let this little one disturb us from the hearing of the Word." The first component is hearing. Faith comes from hearing. When you hear, listen now carefully, with your ears, this is not the main thing. This is through which it gets in. The hearing is talking about your mind. That is the processing centre. In that processing centre, you need to have knowledge to process what is

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coming in. God says, "My people perish for lack of knowledge." Knowledge of what? The Word of God. If you don't have the Word of God here, even when you are hearing the Word of God, you are processing it with the world. Psychology, geology, biology, zoology, history, sociology, feminism, humanism, communism, Marxism, name anything – all these are turning around in million seconds, whatever speed and it is processing the data and the greatest computer ever discovered or invented is the human mind. It is processing it and all of us are processing it differently. The only way we can process it all the same way is when our mind is completely defined by the Word of God and our spirit controlled by the Spirit of God, we will process it the same way. That is the unity of faith the Bible is talking about, where you will come to the maturity that is in Christ Jesus where the processing centre is the same. That is why I keep telling young people and I keep telling everybody, you need to know your text – This (the Bible). Don't read other books first because that will put a color shade on your eyes. Even Christian books. First, get your texts. The others are guides. If you know your text well, even if a guide has gone wrong, you will realize – 95% of this guide is right, 5% is wrong; because you know your text well. This is what you need to know – your text, over and over.

While I was coming in the car, I was talking to George and he was saying that in his Bible college, the professor who teaches the *Book of Acts*, he said, "In one of the classes, it was 2 and a half hours. She made them sit there and read the entire Book of Acts; to sit there and read in one sitting." And then, again, they had to do it the second time. I said, "That's an awesome college," because that's how it should be taught. You need to read and know your text so well. Then, teach doctrine and leave it on how to interpret. The problem with the Church in the last days is that people do not know their text. That's the processing centre and we have to keep growing in our knowledge of the text and our processing of what we hear will change. The hearing goes through the mind where it is being processed and the next one is in *Romans 10:8*,

Romans 10:8

⁸ ***But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"(that is, the word of faith which we preach):***

What the mind processes and what your mind says 'this is true' is what your heart believes.' It receives, "I believe in this." And you believe could be wrong because your processing is wrong. What you believe could be true because your processing is right. But the heart believes. So, there is the ear which goes into the mind; the mind processes; it receives certain ideas; you believe it as truth and then, when you open your mouth, that is actually what comes out. Open your mouth; not open your mouth when you are asked to memorize Scripture and speak it out. That's not what we are talking about. When you face real-life crisis and situations, I told my Church there – your mobile has this recorder. Record it in the morning and just keep it like that for 24 hours and go back and listen to your conversation. You will exactly know how much you believe. Much of our conversations don't tally at all with the truth of God's Word. Understood?

In *Acts 16:25*, we see an incredible scene where they are in prison, back broken.

Acts 16:25

²⁵ ***But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God...***

Why? Because that's exactly what they believed they were supposed to do in that situation. They had heard the Word; their mind had processed it, "*When you are persecuted for righteousness' sake, rejoice and be exceedingly glad.*" They have heard it, mind had processed it, heart had believed it; when the situation came, the mouth speaks it. And that is true. That is genuine faith. You see, that's why God puts us in situations so that we get to know what we really are. He is not trying to punish us but to show us – this is error in your thinking. In *Habakkuk 3*, you will see these famous lines.

Habakkuk 3:17

¹⁷ ***Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls—***

Mind is processing all this. Everything is empty – field is empty, garden is empty, stall is empty, everything is empty but heart has believed something that has gone in earlier –

¹⁸ ***Yet I will rejoice in the Lord...***

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"The reality that I see with my eyes is not the truth of God." The doctor's report you received is not the truth unless God has told you it is over. It is not the truth. When God tells you that it is over, then the medical report and God's report tally. But when God's report hasn't tallied with the medical report, you still speak what His Word says because you should say, "It's not over yet. I have still got some more work to finish." Get this right. That's how it works.

¹⁸Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. ¹⁹The Lord God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.

You see, before any of these things happen, he is already proclaiming it because that is what he believes. This hasn't happened. He is not saying, "I am going," he says,

...He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high hills.

"All these trials and testing will only enable me to go to higher levels with God and not pull me down," because that's what he believed therefore, he confesses. But his belief comes from his mind, how he has processed. So, many of you have finished your exams; your results have come. Ten of you are going into college. It doesn't matter which college you go to. You have to believe He has got your life in His hands. And as a Father who would want for every child of His, He wants their feet only to go up and not come down. You need to believe that. That's why I said – education should be a discipline and not a competition. It's a discipline you learn in life – how I work, how I function; rest should be in His hands and He says, "It doesn't matter which place the world takes you, your feet will only climb up higher and not down. Spiritually, you will only grow closer to Me and not be pulled down." You have to think that way.

In *Numbers 21*, one of the verses; I think we saw this earlier,

Numbers 21:4-5

⁴Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way.

The way that God takes us can be very long and tedious but the way becomes bearable and the way becomes enjoyable, though the body grows weary – physical natural weariness, it is because you know the One who is taking you. If you do not doubt; it is one thing to stand here and say, "God is good all the time," but do we really believe God is good all the time? If God is good all the time, our hearts should not get weary because of the way because, for you and me, in the New Covenant, He Himself is the way. They grew weary and how do you know they haven't believed what they have heard?

⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses...

When they open their mouth, you will realize they have heard a lot of things, they have believed nothing. Because what they believed comes and they say,

...“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?”

Let me ask you this question: did God bring them out of wilderness to die or to live?' Often, we react same way when we go through crises in our marriages, our homes, with our children, with our workplace, every stratum of our life. Look at our response. What is our response?

⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses: “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes (what?) this worthless bread.” (Word of God starts becoming worthless)

They start detesting the Word of God because the way. You see, God has no issue with groaning. I told you yesterday, God has no issue with groaning and crying and weeping. He has major issues with complaining. In *Exodus 2*, Scripture says,

Exodus 2:23-24

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²³ Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. ²⁴ So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

You are in trouble, your marriage is in trouble, you have problems in your office. You are having troubles with your children. God says, "I see your crying, I see your groaning, I am not upset with you." What He is upset with is when we grumble and we complain. Because when I grumble and complain, which is coming from the same mouth, I am questioning the love, the character, the nature, the righteousness, the holiness, the integrity of God. And God says, "I've got an issue with that. And that's why Scripture will say in *1 Corinthians 10:9-10*,

1 Corinthians 10:9-10

⁹ nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

These both are the same. The snakes are in this chapter, the destroyer. The snakes were coming and biting them physically but behind them, what is sending the snakes into the camp is the destroyer. And, how did the destroyer come in? They opened it with their mouth. They opened the mouth. Meaning – the door that I shut, no man can open. But you can, with your mouth. You have shut all the doors. And He says, "Don't worry. Nobody can open it. If somebody says something about you, they cannot open a door. But if you open your mouth, you open that gate." That's what it's talking about. Because our thinking has to change. If our thinking doesn't change, whatever we think, ultimately will come out of our mouth. Because we are questioning who God is.

What you know from the first generation is this, 40 years, they followed God with their bodies and God took care of their bodies but their minds, He couldn't renew it. The mind was in the hand of the enemy, the body was in God's hand. So, God preserved their body but He couldn't renew their mind. And ultimately, because of their mind, their body perished in the wilderness. That's the truth of most of the Christians in 2000 years. Their bodies are preserved by God, they live up to 50 years, 60 years, 70, 80 years but their minds are never preserved. They are never renewed. So, they will live a wilderness kind of life. A wilderness kind of life is where the scenery is the same. "How was 2017?" "Just like 2018." "How will 2019 be?" "It will be just like 2018." If your mind is not renewed, God cannot take you to a new place. It's still the same. "What are you struggling with?" "What I struggled with the last year." "What I was struggling with last year? What I was struggling the previous year." Why? Nothing is changing in your life because you are just preserving your body, because you refuse to allow your mind to be changed.

So, they went around for 40 years and ultimately, they died. Whoever has my mind, has my body. So, they were walking, minds were in Egypt. Bodies are in the wilderness, God is showering Mannah every day, water from the rock. Rock is Christ Jesus. Where is their mind? How do you know? Every time they opened their mouth, they only spoke about Egypt. Every time if you and I open our mouth, we only speak about the world and the ways in which world does and deals with lives. Then, you can be very sure, our mind is in the world. You can actually speak about your problems, and then add a word which is interesting in KJV called 'nevertheless'. This is how God works – nevertheless. It's not that you should be acting, there are no problems in my life. No, God is not saying. Half the *Psalms* of David is actually speaking about his problems, but when he ends, he says, "Nevertheless, I speak to my soul." What is that? "I speak to my mind – 'Mind, mind your own business'. Let me tell you what God says about my situation." He is constantly speaking to his soul, to his mind. Judas followed Jesus for three and half years, with his body but his mind was in the world. Ultimately, the world swallowed him. Church of Christ – the Bride, is not bodies that fill the pews but minds that are being aligned to the mind of Christ. That is what it means – they became one. It's the mind. Pastors may be thrilled by bodies filling the pew. Christ is thrilled by minds that are aligned to Him. That's why in His entire ministry, all He is looking for somebody with faith. Little faith, it doesn't matter how little the faith is. That little faith is that part of your mind that is aligned with mind of Christ. God says, "There is a connection there." It's like that tiny little wire – you connect it; power flows. God says, "Little faith because faith comes from hearing, hearing from the Word of God," it goes down into your heart. Then, from the heart, you believe, when you believe you speak. Of course, the completion is the work.

So, the first thing actually that goes is the mind. Once the mind has gone, it is just the question of time; the body will follow. Let me talk to older people, young people, married people, parents, if you have sign of trouble in your marriage, first thing

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to leave a marriage is not the body, it's the mind. The mind has already moved away from you – your spouse. Your spouse mind has already moved away from you. It's just the matter of time before the body leaves. There are so many people who cringe and crawl and hold on to a body when the mind is already gone. That's how families break up. Families don't break up, overnight. Families break up over a period of time because the mind is moving away and away and away. The body is still there. The body comes back but you know the mind is gone. Once the mind is gone, you can't hold on to the body. And even if you hold on to the body, it makes no sense. It will go. You are just holding on to a body, where the mind is already gone.

Even with the children. That's the prodigal son. The prodigal son decision was not made that day. The father looks at him and knows, "Your mind is gone. You can go. I am not holding on to your body." What do we do? We crumble under the pressure and say, "Please, don't go. What do you want? Inheritance? I'll give you double portion, but just stay with me." It's got nothing to do with him; it's got to do with you. You are a slave. That is why a restoration of a relation begins with the restoration of thinking. Doesn't become restoration of body, Scripture says,

Luke 15:17-20

¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

Sitting in the pigpen, sitting with the pigs; this guy who lost everything, Scripture says, "He came to his senses!" It's a change of thinking, "My father was always right; I was wrong." The mind reached his father's house, days or weeks before the body reached. His mind reached, came to his senses, got onto his knees. He made a journey back; the father realized, "I got my son back because he got his mind back." And here is a son in the house who is there physically present with his body. Yet, his mind is so far away from understanding the mind of the father. He is there physically, never left but his mind never understood the mind of his father. So, there are two typical characters over there. Don't hold on to something when the mind has already gone; instead, start applying the mind, on the mind of the other person.

Let's have slide 1. This is how we are from God's perspective.

Spirit

Soul

Body

We have a spirit, we have a soul and we have a body. God speaks to our spirit but it has to be processed in the soul. The Word of God goes into the soul, the voice of God speaks to the spirit but to process it, you need to know your Word in your soul. The processing center is soul. How this receives it will decide where it goes. God doesn't straight speak to the soul. He speaks to the spirit. The soul is processing it all. Like I could speak for one and a half hours but you may just hear only one thing God tells you. That, you received it, soul processed it, that is God saying it and He give you three different proofs in your head from Scripture saying, "Pastor is saying this," but the mind is bringing three other verse God is speaking to you and if you obey your body follows. That's how it works.

That's why one and a half hours Word you hear, God may speak to you just once. But you need to be there with all your ears for that one and half hours to hear what He is telling you.

Let's have the next slide. So the soul is what matters. In the soul, it should be like this,

Soul

- **The mind**
- **The heart**
- **The will**

- The emotions

Normal Christian soul should be like this. You hear with ears, process with your mind, you take the truth into your heart to believe and once you believe, you decide with your will, 'I am going to do it,' and your emotions becomes the powerhouse that's makes you do it.

So, Scripture will say about Jesus – once He understood in His mind that the cross and the death on the cross in Jerusalem is God's will for Him, He receives it, He process it, He believes it, He submits His will to it and Scripture says, "*He set His face like a flint towards Jerusalem.*" His emotions are all pushing Him towards that side and He wouldn't allow anybody change His mind. That's how it works. And that's how it should work. This is the normal order for a godly person. But that's not how it always works. There is another one.

Emotions are on the top. What happens? That's how most people are most of us were, if we haven't changed. When we hear, first it hits on the emotions. So, we jump and we are excited and we will in many Youtube videos, drums and music, people jumping and all? It is all received in emotional level. Your emotion tells you something is true and you react but the mind is not being changed. Later, when you go out, the will comes here and you go back your old way.

Those of you who have computers and smart phones, you know something in your system called 'default setting'. Whatever you do, if that is not disabled, when you go back, the old setting comes back. The only way you can change the way you work is by disabling the default setting. So, what happens is our default setting is not disabled – that's the old way – we receive things. So, in the emotions, all of you are actually happy in the house of God, you love worship, you love the prayer, you love the Word, you are very excited but the minute you step out, the default setting comes back and you go the old way because you have never disabled your old settings. So, nobody can convince you that you were not real in Church because you were real in Church and real outside also but they are two different realities. That's basically what is happening everywhere. You know what is Scripture says in *Hebrews 12*?

Hebrews 12:16-18

¹⁶lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

He is weeping but there is no change of mind. It's the emotions on the top. "I lost my blessings! Daddy, Daddy, my brother stole it all." But the brother is gone and now he is prospering. Only he wanted was money and money is coming. He has got a good job, he got a raise, he got his promotion, his mind-set never changed. Now he is prospered, he is still in his mind, despises his birth right. He was not bothered of it, all he wanted was money.

That's the issue with believers. Christians is that they are reacting emotionally and they cry, they laugh, they scream, the mind-set is not changing. So, when they get out, the default setting comes in and they go the old way. It's very difficult to convince such a person that you didn't actually believe because for him, his reality is his tears, his laughter, his joy, his jumping, his singing, his songs, all that is right if it is accompanied with the change of mind.

I want to look at a case. Same case which we looked earlier,

Numbers 21:6-8

⁶So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.⁸ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live."

Now, go back to the beginning,

...and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.

Many died; many lived. Why did they live? Because there was a change of mind here, they came back to the same man against whom they had spoken. Many people in the Christendom have been bitten by the snakes but they will not go back to the same people against whom they spoke and they are dying a death of 'slow poison'. Israelites had the change of mind. They went back to the same man and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and we have spoken against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us."

So, that man prays. There is a consistent order in the Bible. Three friends of Job spoke against God and spoke against him and at the end God told Job that you pray for those guys; otherwise, they will die. We don't realize why we die a slow death. We look at our promotion and think we are living. God says, "You are spiritually wasting away. The poison has got in, there is only one way you can be restored that is a change of mind – how God works." Align your mind to that, respond to that, you will live otherwise you will die. All were bitten, all didn't die but many died. Repentance means change of mind. One of the primary things is change of mind. In,

2 Corinthians 7:10

¹⁰ For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

Your tears should produce a change of mind and not be regretted. But the sorrow of the world produces death.

When I was an incredibly naughty as a young boy, my father used to give me this (spanking with rod) medicine. At the beginning, when I used to cry, one or two spanking, he used to stop. Then, I learned the trick that before he takes the stick, I start crying and he would tell me, "Cry as much as you want to cry but you know what? You are going to get today's quota." He realized there is no change of behavior. "You got spanked yesterday; today, you are doing the same thing. You got spanked last week, you are doing the same thing but every time I take the stick, you cry! So, there is a sorrow but no change of behavior." Worldly sorrow produces death. If my skin could talk, it would tell how many cells died. Nice big wells! Godly sorrow should produce a change of mind, which will lead to a change of situation, circumstances because salvation has come in because it has caused a change of mind. But it is only received like Esau, Saul and other people in the Bible with emotions and not change of life, ultimately end will be death. Nothing else will bring change in our life. That is what faith is all about – my mind, my heart, my emotions, my will complete itself in works. So,

James 2:17

¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

So, when did this (stick) stopped coming to me with brutal force is when my Dad was convinced that my behavior has changed. When my behavior changed that (stick) never had to come. He was not looking at my tears; he was looking at my behavior. Now, if behavior doesn't change, God says, "Still going around in circles." Like I said, the prodigal son was not an overnight decision. Father must have been watching and knew, "There was no point; let him go." You know the story of prodigal son? All are different cases. If you are a sheep that was lost because of ignorance, I promise you that He will go to the ends of the world to search for you, to find you, to carry you back, if you were lost of ignorance. If you were dropped, the second parable of the coin that was dropped – when the coin is dropped, the coin has not control over it being dropped. It has no choice of choosing the place, 'let me fall on the soft cushion'. No, it falls on a hard ground may be, or among the jungle in the thick, it has no control over where it is, it is fallen but you will see an incredible searching for the coin and it is found. These are different case studies. Mephibosheth was a young boy. Because of the sin of his grandfather who sinned against God, battle is lost, his maid trying to run, dropped him was like a dropped coin and he was lame. But one-day God's broom called David finds him and says, "Is there anybody from the household of Saul to whom I can show grace?" and he showed grace and lift him up, put him on his own table and said, "Eat like one of my sons." But the prodigal son he knew what was right and what was wrong and he said, "I want my way out." Father said, "Go. I don't hold you. You can go. There is only one way to come back, you will come back when you have learned through life experiences bitter, hard, fiery experiences, there was only one way that was right that was your father's way. Come back. And when you come back, unconditional you are received back. No other way."

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Learn from Scripture. If it is a wrong decision; I was telling the young men yesterday, the story of the prodigal son, there are no angels, no demons, nothing there. Just a story in a home. If it is a wrong decision that got you into trouble, it is only a right decision that will get you out of trouble; nothing else will. You can call greatest men in the world to pray over you, you can have all night prayer, fasting and prayer far away but if it is a wrong decision that cast you into the pit the right decision that will take you out. You have to have a change of mind. Otherwise, it's not going to happen. That's the only way, in certain cases, restoration will take place. And what about the elder son? Interesting character, right? Yesterday, when we were sharing, George picked up on it very fast. The younger son, that's the problem with the younger son. It's called the younger son. The younger son is asking for his inheritance. You are here, spiritually, emotionally, you are young and you are asking for something which you should receive now, here, ten years down the line, you are so inexperienced but in your pride, in your arrogance, your stubbornness, you are asking from God what you should have years later. The Father sees it and says, "Take it." Because you are not ready for it. You take what was actually meant for you, you destroy yourself by using it. That's what, as parents, we have done. We have given to our children stuff that they would have never had because simply they did not have the maturity to handle it when we gave it to them. Now, they are sitting in the pig-pen and the thing is that, that's just one story. All the prodigal sons don't come back from the pig-pen. They love the pig-pen. What about the elder son? Scripture says that when this fellow asked for his inheritance, the father divided the inheritance, between the two. The elder also received the inheritance along with the younger one but he did nothing with it. Years later when the younger son comes back he is so upset because they are partying and he says, "I am not coming in, you never gave me anything, not even a party." The problem is when you don't make a decision in your life, that also is a decision. And there are lots of people in Christendom who will never make a risk of decision of faith and they think that "I am cool." God says, "Not making a decision is equal to a decision. Even that is a decision." Years later, you will see that he is still outside the father's house. When the father had given you everything you needed spiritually to climb up the higher heights, you never made a decision. You never took it to His word and stepped out in faith. And that's the tragedy of the Church which is so much potential in the Body of Christ, people do nothing with it. "I will stick to the old normal, safe ways, I am not doing anything, I am not going to take risks, I prefer the comfort of religion to that incredible walk of faith." Faith is full of risk. You have to fight giants and battle armies and go up mountains and down all kinds of places in that journey. But that's the incredible journey because you experience the power of God there and most of the people don't want to take that risk. They take the comfort of religion. That's why,

Philippians 2:5

⁵Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

He had a mind. You also have a mind but let your mind be the mind of Christ Jesus. That is faith. When you and I actually get all the components of faith together and we act it out at that point the mind of Christ is manifested and faith is an unbelievable equalizer. If you don't understand faith and our reason why we feel we struggle with so many things to be approved by the world, our clothing, our buying, our possessions, our selfies, our twitter and our chats. All these things are because we simply never understood faith.

Peter, Hrishi, Archie, all of them can sing; they can play so many instruments. What if God says, "Only if you sing well, your worship is accepted; only if you can play the keyboard, your worship is accepted; only if you can play the guitar, then only your worship is accepted"? Then how many our worship would be accepted? I can't sing, I can't play any instrument but God says, "By faith, Abel worshipped God." The only thing you need in the Church or in your house to worship God is faith. Faith is an equalizer. It puts everybody in the same bracket. It is an incredible equalizer. You don't need anything else. I don't have to sing like a professional singer. I don't have to play any instruments, I can come to the house of God, full of talented people who can sing like the greatest singers, play every instrument, God says, "You bring faith and you worship, your faith is accepted. Do you realize what your faith does? We are created to worship.

All the selfies, you look at the selfies. One politician and everybody. Kerala CM took the phone from somebody when somebody tried to take a selfie with him. Yesudas, the great singer when somebody tried to take selfie, took the phone and deleted the selfie. Otherwise, everybody, Hollywood, Bollywood, singer, CM, PM everybody wants a selfie. Why? Because you want to show others, "You know the people I walk with? I walk with the PM, the CM." In Church. Pastors have become like that. "Oh! I want to walk with the Pastor. Can I have a picture when I was in the mission field?" I said, "Take it. I am not a celebrity. If you want it, take it." You realize our obsession that we get recognition that we walk with somebody the world looks upon, the Scripture says, "By faith, Enoch walked with God." Forget all these people, they all have a beginning and

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end, they die and they die unto dust but there is one who is called 'Everlasting to Everlasting' who says, "Anybody by faith could walk with Me." It's an equalizer. It doesn't matter where you are from. You could be a village girl or a village woman from a little town; nobody knows where it is in the map, where it is nothing but you got this, you heard it; you believed it; you chose and you walked with God. God says, "Everybody is trying to walk with the PM and the CM; this girl walks with Me." And He looks down at Satan and says, "Did you see in the land of Telangana, in that little village? Where have you come from?" He says, "Walking to and fro from the earth to see who will walk with me." He said, "Did you find that person who walks with Me there?" Faith is an equalizer. We get our affirmation. We get all these things from our resumes – doctored and undoctored, right? Our degrees, our work – all. Work and work and finally, they will say, "Work is worship." There is dignity. Definitely, there is dignity in work, in labour. That's why the Son of God was a Carpenter for 30 years. But imagine if He was only a Carpenter from the beginning till the end of His life, what a total waste of the most brilliant mind that ever walked on earth! This captures that mind that walked on earth. For the last 3 and a half years, there was a work which He did which came from His mind. Moses was a prince, he was a shepherd but the only thing that is written about him was that Moses was a prince and he was a shepherd but for the next 40 years, he stood before God for 40 days and 40 nights and when he comes down, he comes down with the mind of Christ which is reflected in the stones that he brought – engraved the law of God. That's the mind that was put to work. Paul must have been a tentmaker. There's absolutely nothing wrong with making tents but if that was all that was done, what a terrible waste of the mind of Christ! And here, you have 12 epistles written by this tentmaker because his mind did the work of Christ and God is saying, "What in the world are you doing with your minds? You are called to do the work of Christ, irrespective of your profession." A fisherman called Peter wrote *1 Peter* and *2 Peter*. A fisherman called John wrote the *Gospel according to John*, the *epistle according to John*, 3 of them and *Revelation* because they put their mind to do the work of Christ by faith and faith alone.

Don't waste your time. Don't waste your life because He has given to you and to me is the mind of His own Son. Have this mind. Be trained and grow into this mind. If there is something worse than a lazy body, it is a lazy mind. In *1 Peter 1:13*, it says,

1 Peter 1:13

¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind...

Meaning – your mind also has a place where you can tighten the belt. When you are about to do a task, in our old Indian tradition, when we wear a dhoti, we tie it up nicely. And if it is Kerala, we will take it and tie it the second time. Then only, we take our implements. Scripture says,

¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind...

There's nothing more worse for God to see, which is a lazy mind. This mind of a born-again believer is supposed to be handling the very truths of who God is, what God is, how He works and His ways, which the world will never understand. We waste this mind on those filth of the world without engaging this mind with the Word of God. By faith. There's nothing worse than a lazy body, is a lazy mind. Don't be lazy and how we activate our minds to rise up in the world and how we don't activate to grow in the knowledge of Christ! That's the sad part. In *Acts 17:11*,

Acts 17:11

¹¹ These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness,

That's how you should come to Church – readiness of mind. Absolutely ready. Your mind is ready so that it doesn't miss anything that is being spoken. It grabs all of it because the mind is ready and prepared to receive the truth and the ways of God. Come with the readiness of mind. That's why Scripture says in *James 1:19*; what does it say?

James 1:19

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

Listen to God. Listen to godly voices. Be silent to listen. What does it mean to be silent? Two people can't talk. That means nobody is listening. Neither of them are listening. That's why, in fights, nobody is listening. Learn the habit. If you have a fight in your family, go quiet. So, unless you can listen to what the other person is saying and you don't want to continue

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fighting, you can, at least, form some arguments. But if both of you are talking at the same time, you are not listening because, God, especially, God only speaks through silence. He never does otherwise. 400 years, the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. 400 years of God's silence and God took a man who had full of loud voices of the world, picked him up from Egypt, brought him into the wilderness and taught him to live in silence for 40 years and then, out of that silence, from the burning bush, God spoke to him and said, "You, go speak to My people. They are living in the world. They cannot hear My voice. You have heard My voice. You go speak to them about what I said to you." Because our God only speaks through silence. Any man in the Bible, you look – he was taken to a place of silence where he trained his ears to hear the voice of God. 400 years between *Malachi* and *Matthew*, not a single word from God. Then, God takes a child, supernaturally born, called John the Baptist as a young boy; takes him into the wilderness, is reared in the wilderness, eating locust and honey and then, Scripture says, "The Word of the Lord bypassing Jerusalem, the king, the governor, the high priest, everybody – it comes to John the Baptist," because he had trained his ears in silence. So, he was ready when God spoke to hear it. I'm telling you – one word you hear from God will change your life. Some of the things which you have been struggling for years and years with no change, you hear one word from God, oh boy! It will change your life but our ears are tuned to every other voice. That's why *Proverbs 8:34* says,

Proverbs 8:34

³⁴ Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates...

You have to watch. Listening is watching. That's why watch your eyes. Look at me. When you are not looking at me, you are not listening to me. It doesn't mean that if you look at me, you are listening to me. You need to listen and you need to watch. You cannot look elsewhere and listen; you cannot look at me and that doesn't mean you are listening. You need both. God says, "Blessed is the man who listens and who watches,"

...Waiting at the posts of my doors.

Blessed is the man. Why? *Faith comes from hearing and hearing from the Word of God.*

Psalms 141:3

³ Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.

So that when I speak, it should not contradict Your Word. When I speak, it should be out of true faith and not out of sight; not out of my emotions, my flesh; it should be absolutely ratified by Your Word. So, listen.

Slow to speak. What is the previous verse in *James 1:19*?

James 1:19

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

Why are you angry? First question God asked outside the Garden, "Why are you angry?" You are angry because your emotions are at the top and not your reason. You are not standing there with a sober mind and listening to the arguments and immediately, you are jumping in emotions. That's why you are angry. That's why we get offended.

1 Samuel 10:1

¹ Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance?"

Who is this? Saul. King Saul is being anointed. When he is anointed, do you know what Scripture says in verse 9?

1 Samuel 10:9

⁹ So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day.

He is anointed; he has got a new heart, a different heart.

Move down some years. Another scene.

1 Samuel 16:12-13

¹²So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. (Who is this? David,) And the Lord said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

Two different situations. Saul is anointed. Years down the line, David is anointed. Saul has got a new heart; David also got a new heart. What is the difference between the two? The difference between the two is their mind. "You anoint my head with oil and my cup overflows." Where do you find that? Let's have *Psalm 23*.

Psalm 23:1

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Where does that come from? It comes from your mind. You know who your Shepherd is and you know you there cannot be lack as long as He is leading me.

Psalm 23:1-5

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me to lie down in green pastures (You have understood the ways of God,); He leads me beside the ^{1c}still waters. ³ He restores my soul...

Order has come. Emotions are not at the top; mind is there at the top; reasoning, heart is the in the middle; the will is there. Emotions are what is pumping you.

...He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death (you go through evil of good, yet you are absolutely sure about God. You know Who the Person is), I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me (I'm not afraid of my enemies because I know You are still my victory and my provision will come even) in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil;

Your anointing works because my mind is framed according to your mind. Therefore, the anointing works. There is no lack of anointing. Anointing is not working because there is a lack of thinking like Christ. That's the difference between Saul and David. David's mind works like God's mind. Therefore, the anointing will sustain him till the end of his life. Saul's mind works like the mind of the world. It won't. The anointing won't help. Actually, the anointing will propel him to death. Are you getting it? Do you know where our struggles are? Our struggles are not with the anointing; our struggles are with our thinking. For the anointing to continuously work in our lives, our thinking has to change. The head of Christ is God. So, if God's anointing has to work on Christ, all the days of His life, He needs to understand His head and His government – "My government is God. My mind is controlled by the Father. I will listen to My Father's voice, I will walk, I will work and the anointing will flow into My life." The head of man is Christ. Who is your government? As men sitting here, head means government. Head of the government. Who is your government? Who governs your thinking? Men, I'm asking the men. Who governs your thinking? Is it random pick and choose or are you absolutely sure, "Lord, in this 11th year, I commit my thinking. Change my thinking; how radical it is, how difficult it is, it doesn't matter, Lord, I am open to Your thinking." I submit my will to Your will." That's what Jesus says, "If any man wills to do My will, He will know what true doctrine is, what true thinking is." Submit and start changing. Then, you will realize – the anointing will flow into your life and it is able to break the yokes in your homes and in your own lives.

The head of woman is? Do you see? Do you see the anointing flowing in your life? Do you accept that government, that headship? "Oh, no. My husband. Show us Abraham." Abraham was a nasty man who sold his wife to save his life but God said, "Because she has come under that order, My anointing will flow into Pharaoh; Abimelech will not even touch her because My anointing will cover her and protect her because she knows her head." Her thinking was right; his thinking was warped. Still, the anointing flew. Do we understand headship? That's what the Bible says in *Ephesians*. What does it say?

Ephesians 6:17

¹⁷And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

You have to look at the combinations in the Bible – helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit. Meaning – your thinking will determine whether you win your battle or not. This is,

...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

But how do you think? Randomly pick here and choose, or is your thinking controlled by the Word of God; therefore, the sword is effective in your life? Three strikes and the devil is out of Jesus' life because His thinking is controlled by the Word of God. That's what God is talking about. Otherwise, 11th year will be like the 10th year; and the 10th year was like the 9th year; the 9th year was like the 8th year. It's the repetition of the same thing. These are just numbers with no significance unless we start changing the way we think. That's real faith – how do we think? Because the head of Christ is God and He showed what headship was. The head of man is Christ. The head of woman is man and the head of the children are the parents.

Saul's anointing failed. Anointing didn't fail him. Saul's head failed him because his head was full of worldly ideas. Can you imagine – a head full of worldly ideas and is anointed? What happened to him at the end?

1 Samuel 31:8-9

⁸So it happened the next day, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. (They committed suicide. They are dead. What did the Philistines do?) ⁹And they cut off his head and stripped off his armor, and sent word throughout the land of the Philistines, to proclaim it in the temple of their idols and among the people.

They took his body and pinned it against the wall but they took his head. "Your head was always ours. Even when you went in the Name of Jehovah Sabaoth, even though the hair was anointed with oil, we knew your head always belonged to us. So, we are taking your head." Whom does your head belong to? Ultimately, that power will possess your head.

1 Samuel 31:11-12

¹¹Now when the inhabitants of Jabesh Gilead heard what the Philistines had done to Saul, ¹²all the valiant men arose and traveled all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth Shan; and they came to Jabesh and burned them there.

They only could get his body. What's the point of a body without the head? The head is gone. While Acts 13:36,

Acts 13:36

³⁶"For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;

When he was buried, his head was with his body because his head always belonged to God. Therefore, the body also stayed with the head. So, whether you sit here or you come regularly, is not the point. I can only see your bodies. The issue is – where is your head?

Do you remember David's first battle? Everybody knows David's first battle. It's all a battle in the head, like the WWE fellows. Before they fight, they will challenge them and all kinds of words, they will say. I saw it centuries ago. I'm not that old but centuries ago. They say all kinds of things because it is intimidating. David and Goliath. David says, "You come against me with the sword, the javelin, the spear; I come against you in the Name of Jehovah Sabaoth." "What do you think I am, a dog, that you come against me with a stick?" All that WWE thing going on – a giant and a small boy and one sling, the giant is down. Then, something happens.

1 Samuel 17:51

⁵¹ Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

He brought the head. "This is the idea that terrified you all these years. This idea, I overcome by the power of Christ." It is ideas that control you. Whatever idea or ideology that controls you, that is what you are in bondage to. God says, "Every Philistine idea, cut the head off. You overcome and Christ overcomes." Because whoever has your mind has you. Who has your mind? Who will have your mind when you go out the doors of this hall? Who will have your mind? Then, Scripture says, "Have this mind that was also in Christ Jesus." Overcame everything. Overcame the flesh, overcame sin, overcame the devil, overcame the world, overcame death because that was the mind and God says, "That's what I have given to you when you were born again. I have given you His mind. Now, let that mind grow." Did you see what the head represents? Anoint the head.

In a family, a believing family, let's say, Vijay and Jacinth. Believing family, God anoints Vijay's head and that anointing flows into her if she aligns her mind with his. Otherwise, she blocks it. And when they come in alignment with one headship, one mind, the anointing starts flowing from them and start touching Abigail and Emmanuella because the anointing flows down. The head of man is Christ and the head of woman is man and the head of the children are the parents. That's how it flows. It is this that has to align and the anointing works. Don't blame the anointing. Don't blame the Holy Spirit. It's our mind. Otherwise, it doesn't matter what anointing you have, this doesn't change. The anointed man,

Judges 16:17-19

¹⁷ that he told her all his heart, and said to her, "No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man."

Who is this fool? Samson. He opened his mouth and gave his incredible spiritual secret to a Gentile girl. The minute she gets the news, she is on her iPhone. "Hello, sir Philistine leader? I got it." Let's look.

¹⁸ When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart...

See? Your emotions. "How can I keep it from you? You are troubling me but I love you so much. So, for your eyes only, okay, Delilah? This is my secret." Delilah broadcasts it. All-Philistine-Radio, this is.

...she sent and called for the lords of the Philistines, saying, "Come up once more, for he has told me all his heart." So the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hand. ¹⁹ Then she lulled him to sleep on her knees,

Where is his head? On her lap. Do you think the anointing will work? Is the anointing going to save him? No, it is not going to save him. Your thinking has been compromised and it is on the lap of that gentile woman. Your thinking has been compromised. All she has to do is take your consecration and you are done. That's what the world is trying to do. "Come. We know your head. We understand your head. Please sleep on your laps. We know your head. You are dangerous but we won't tell you that. We will say 'come sleep on our laps'." We don't understand. They understand. And the head is gone.

So, this 11th year, as we go to Communion, ask – who has my mind? Because whoever has your mind owns you and the devil, through the world system, is after our mind and God, through His Son, the Word of God and His Spirit, is also after our mind. "He anoints my head with oil." And this portion is there. If it works properly, it doesn't matter if it is the green pastures or the valley of the shadow of death, wilderness, enemies around, I know something – I see my cup overflow because my thinking will determine which way my anointing flows. I can finish like David or I can finish like Saul. Both were anointed by the same man, same oil. Both were anointed. One ended his body on a Philistine wall, head in the hand of that Philistine. Other one rested with his forefathers, nicely in his old age but before, when he began his first day, he decided, "This thought life is not going to captivate me. I am going to overcome this worldly thinking." He brought the head of the Philistine into the Israelite camp." How do you live is how you think? The question is: how do you think today? Without faith, it is impossible to please God because faith is how God thinks. That's how we think. He says, "When you walk in faith, you think just like Me. How can I stop working in your life?"

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So, this morning, I ask the Worship team to come, the elders to come. We go to the first communion of our 11th year and I pray the emblems that come to you, will come to you with power because you are preparing your mind, your heart to receive two emblems that signify everything to us – the Word and the Spirit, the Body and the Wine.

Communion Prayer:

Father, this morning, we just come to Your table. This is Your table, Jesus; a table You have instituted for us and before us until the day You come back and I pray, Father, as we have entered into our 11th year, we will come to this table, fearfully, reverentially and yet, joyfully, Lord; knowing that as we partake of these emblems, of Your Body and Your Blood that was shed, in faith, it will bring deliverance; it will bring healing; it will bring boldness; and it will bring strength to each one to walk in faith, to worship in faith and to serve in faith. So, Father, I pray, let every heart be touched, every mind be renewed and our bodies be offered as living sacrifices to a God who redeemed us with His own Body and His Blood. Thank You, Father. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Communion Song: What A Faithful God Have I.

So, this 11th year, ask this question: who has my mind or how much of my mind does God have? It doesn't change in one day but it has to keep changing every day. In your computer and in your phones, when you do your letters or whatever, you will see this small dustbin, right? They have a dustbin. You need to have one dustbin in your head too. Every time you hear the Word of God and your mind and Scripture confirms it as the Word of God, your heart believes it, go, take the other worldly idea and put it in the dustbin. But remember, you can retrieve, in your computer, from the dustbin. Don't do that. Empty the dustbin. Otherwise, when after 10 years in the Promised Land, there was something in the dustbin and when trouble came, Sarah told Abraham, "I brought something from Egypt. It is still there. Her name is Hagar." Because she forgot to empty the dustbin. So, don't keep it. Delete it. You replace every idea that is not from God because the world is a set mind-set. Babylon is a mind-set. Multiple sets of mind-set. Every religion is a mind-set. Islam is a mind-set. It is a series of ideas. Hinduism is a series of ideas. Buddhism is a series of ideas. But the overruling idea is none of this because most Muslim don't know Islam and those who know are very nice people. Honestly, their very religion is a nice force for the society. The real Hindus who know the Gita are very nice Hindus. The radicals don't know their scripture. The Buddhists you meet, some of them are the nicest people you will ever meet. Such kind, gentle, generous people! Because these are mind-sets but most people don't know even what is the core of their texts, including Christians. God says, "Nobody can live without a mind-set. Nobody lives without an idea which controls you. if you do, you will be in an insane asylum. You are mentally gone." Everybody has a set of ideas on which they function. The issue is – is it true? So, the issue is not where your body is today; the issue is – where is your mind today? Because where your mind is today, your body will go there tomorrow.

I tell every Church I go – it takes 40 days to break the strongest stronghold in your life. Not one day more. You change your entire mind-set, like Moses did, in 40 days. He comes down the mountain with the mind of Christ with two rocks, tables of stone which was cut by God and written by God. But when he came down and he found that the mind-set down had changed completely and gone in the Egyptian way, what happened? His old temper surfaced and what did he do? He broke the tablets. Read your Scripture carefully. Next time, God says, "I will write. You cut the rock." When God cuts something for us, it's very easy. Now, He says, "You cut. I write." So, He will cut our heart until His laws are written on our soul. Then, we will remember it. But hear now, change your thinking. Change your mind-set. Constantly, change. Replace what you know which contradicts the Word of God with the Word of God and I'm telling you, between the head and the cup is the mind. You get your mind right, your cup will overflow. So, it doesn't matter where your body is today, ask yourself this question: where is my mind? If your mind is in the right place, it doesn't matter what the world does to you; the world can drag your body in chains and starvation and take you on a 1000-mile journey and bring you to Babylon, change your name, change your dress, change your setting, put you right in the Babylonian court but your mind is in Jerusalem. So, your mind will function and say, "I purpose in my heart, I will not defile myself because my mind is with Christ, the body is with them." But if the mind doesn't change, like the rest of the sons of Judah, except for his three friends, their minds were already in Babylon when they were living in Jerusalem. So, when they were brought to Jerusalem, they loved it and they assimilated into that culture. They all went to the synagogues. They all listened at the temple. They all listened to the prophets. They all listened to the teaching; but their mind was in Babylon. So, when Babylon came and took, God says, "Let them go. They are Babylonians in their mind-set anyway and I will have four witnesses there who are Hebrews." That is the final tribulation. The final separation when Babylon takes over this whole world, we will know whose mind-set is Christ and whose mind-set

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is this world's. Therefore, we change our thinking now, over and over. That's why Scripture says, "Submit to God and resist the devil." If you don't submit to God, His Word and His Spirit, there is no way I can resist the way or you can resist the devil. We cannot. He will overcome us. Only two things God asks from Joshua, "You are going to lead these people into the Promised Land. You will possess it. Every place the soul of your foot treads, I give it to you. One – don't fear. Do not fear. Be bold and courageous. Do not fear. Second thing – meditate upon My Word day and night. Don't turn to the left; don't turn to the right. Do not let it depart from your mouth." You want to succeed to the life of Christ? He says, "Don't be afraid of the enemy." He uses tactics called 'intimidation'. That's why Scripture says, "The devil is a roaring lion, trying to intimidate." Submit to God, resist him. Be courageous. Don't fear. Meditate upon My Word. Let it be the way you think. He came to the people and said, "What do you say?" They said two things, "As God was with Moses, let Him be with you. And sir, you are our leader. Be bold. Be courageous. Nothing more needed to conquer the Promised Land – a mind-set and boldness." When persecution broke out in the *Book of Acts*, they didn't ask for rescue; they said, "The mind-set is the mind of Christ and, Lord, give us boldness." And they went and conquered the whole world to Christ but if this doesn't change, it doesn't matter where we sit, Babylon has conquered us. So, Scripture says, "Humble thyself before God and He will exalt you." That's our difficulty. All ideas are there. We have to humble ourselves and lift this up and say, "Lord, I humble myself this."

I was telling yesterday – one person alone, as far as I can remember in the 4 Gospels, for her healing, Jesus had nothing to do with it. He didn't even know that somebody was healed until she was healed. It was the woman with the 12 years issue of blood. You know what Scripture says? She heard about Jesus and she said, "If only I could touch the hem of His robe. I won't touch Him because that's the law. If I touch Him, He is unclean. I will not even touch His sleeves or His collar, not that which is easily accessible; the hem of His robe. What you see is humility at its best in physical form. An old woman, on her knees, touching the hem and God says, "My Son doesn't see but I see, get healed." Virtue flows and He said, "Who touched Me?" Humble thyself before the Lord; next instant, she is lifted up by God and Jesus says, "Daughter, go in peace. I had nothing to do with this. Your faith healed you." Understand that. Every idea we raise above Jesus is a sign of pride. That's the problem with ideas. Anything you think is right when it doesn't agree with the Word of God is pride. God opposes the proud, even among His own people. He opposes the proud. The way you become humble is not walking like this (lowly); the way you become humble is inside. You say, "Lord, this is the way I thought; this is the way you think. I humble myself and elevate Your thought. I humble myself." Everybody is screaming, everybody is scared, king is scared, everybody is scared; the man is 9 feet tall, all covered in bronze. "Lord, inside, my heart is also beating fast but, Lord, not my feelings, not what I think but what You think – who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he dare defy the armies of the Living God." God said, "Humble man. His mind is aligned to My mind." Irrespective of his circumstances, he is a humble man. When his brothers said, "You proud fellow, why did you come here leaving the sheep?" Humility does not have to do with the way you talk and the way you walk and all that; it has got to do, primarily, with the way you think, how you think. When God says, "When you think My way, I will talk to you more because I can talk to you. I am humble; you are humble. We can talk." Two humble people can talk. Can a humble and a proud person talk? No, only the proud will talk but the humble will listen. And if the humble speaks, the proud will accept nothing. God is humble; He says, "I look for one humble man, humble child, anybody and I can talk to them." Will you be woken up in the night if you are a child? "Samuel, Samuel?" "Yes?" He is humble. We will put our pillow over our head, "Please don't disturb me." Amen? Shall we pray? Come, let's stand up.

Closing Prayer:

We just thank You, Father. We just thank You, Lord. I pray, Father, starting today, there would be a deliberate attempt in the lives of Your people to change the way they think, for Your Word says, "Have this mind which was also in Christ Jesus, a mind that thinks like God, a mind that values things that God values, a mind that sees the end as God sees, a mind that sees life as God sees, a mind that sees people as God sees." O Father, help us to think the way You think. Therefore, we will speak the way You speak and therefore, we will work the way You work. Unless our mind changes, our conversations won't change; our works won't change and our entire lives will be lived in futility, O Lord. Your Word says, O Lord, that the entrance of Your Word brings light and wherever Your light hasn't entered or we have blocked, we are still living in darkness, but I pray this year, there will be a definite battle against darkness because wherever darkness is in our minds, behind them are also powers of darkness and I pray we will allow Your light to come in and I pray, Lord, bondage after bondage, yoke after yoke will be broken because when the light comes, the anointing flows. I pray into every grimace dark corner of the human mind here, I pray Your light will flow and Your anointing will flow and blind will see. The deaf will hear. The spiritually lame will walk. The prisoners will be set free. The sick will be healed and You will have a set of people, O Lord, whose hearts will be on fire for God, O Master. I believe, Lord, for Your people, that many will definitely make an effort to change the way they think. We will see the fruit, the harvest in the years to come because You do Your work silently, quietly in the minds of people,

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pulling down strongholds, imaginations, thoughts, bringing everything to the captivity of Christ Jesus. When in our thought life, our obedience is perfect, then, Lord, Christ will be magnified in everything because that's the Word You gave us 10 years ago, to build this Church, that in all things, Christ Jesus should have pre-eminence and it begins with our minds, O Lord. I pray, Father, in our minds, in our thoughts, may You have pre-eminence. In our words, may You have pre-eminence. In our hearts, may You have pre-eminence. In our emotions, may You have pre-eminence. In our will, may You have pre-eminence. In our works, may You have pre-eminence, O Lord. We just surrender ourselves as a Church. Be with us. Go before us, Lord. Thank You, Father. Once again, thank You for Your faithfulness. Now, by faith, we lift up holy hands, O Lord, and we bless Your holy Name. For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever and ever. Thank You, Father. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

Benediction:

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with each one of us, Amen.