

Church of Christ

...Heart to Heart...

Our mind set in Christ is the most important thing for growing spiritually. How you approach things in your mind and what you think about daily reveals your mindset.

“For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.” (Rom. 8:5) We have been given the Spirit in Christ. Are we going to set our minds after the Spirit or continue to allow our minds to be set on the flesh, our natural approach before we came into Christ?

While holding a meeting a few years back, a deacon in the church began showing me how they repainted the inside of the building to prepare for the meeting and their future. As he walked me through the classrooms, he shared with me how color schemes are what help people learn and can be a calming effect on the body. He was serious! Where was his mind set? That may be how the world learns, but what about God? The learning from the Lord is not about “color schemes.” It’s about God writing on the tablets of your heart and putting His teachings within our being (Heb. 8:10-12). To approach God in the fashion like the world is a fleshly mind set. We need to allow God to tell us how to approach things through faith and dependency on Him. It’s about our hearts and not the external surroundings! (I wonder what “color schemes” Paul and those he converted had while in prison?)

To not set our minds after the Spirit when we come into Christ is to walk down a road of fleshliness and deterioration. **“For the mind set on the flesh is death...”** (Rom. 8:6) Death is the result of the wrong mindset. What is meant by death? **“Because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God...”** (Rom. 8:7) Why do people get upset when you take away their thinking? You point to the word and they don’t like it because it speaks opposite of how they think. Their hostility toward God reveals their spiritual state of being. When you point people to God and they don’t like what you say, what does that say about their mind set?

“For it (the mind) does not subject itself to the law of God...” (Rom. 8:7) The mind that lives in death will not submit to God’s teaching. Instead of changing their mind set, they fight to retain their thinking. People don’t want to be wrong and give up wrong thinking and they continue in their fleshliness and live in death.

We need to make sure we submit our minds to the Lord. When we are wrong, we need to be humble and admit it. That’s a mind set on the Spirit and it brings life and peace. It’s a great comfort to know you are wrong because you are walking closer to the Lord by giving up wrong thinking. Where is your mind set? Think about it!!!