

# ETERNAL JUDGMENT

The thought of judgment brings fear to those who are not established in the love of God. Jesus said in John 12:31, 32, “*Now is the judgment of this world.*” “Now” does not mean a thousand years from now or two thousand years from now? Jesus made statement two thousand years ago. He said “now”, **right now**, is the judgment of this world. “*Now shall the prince of this world be cast out, and if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all men unto me.*”

In the King James Version of the Bible, the word “men” is in italics. When you see a word in italics in the King James Version, that means it is not in the original language. The translators inserted it because they thought it would make the text clearer. However, you have to realize that they were translating from their particular doctrinal beliefs. This could be read – *Now is the judgment of the world, and if I be lifted up from the earth will draw all unto me.* He is saying, “Now is the judgment of this world, and if I be lifted up (He is talking about on the cross) will draw all *judgment* unto me.”

You must remember that Jesus was judged for the sins of the entire world. He took the punishment for their sins, regardless of whether they accepted Him or not. That is why God loves (and we should love) the sinner just as much as He loves the saint. God loved the world so much that He sent Jesus to pay the price. This encourages me. People often say, “I want my brother to get saved, but he is so wild it is going to be tough.” Your brother will not be any tougher to get saved than anyone else will. His sin was paid for at the same time as everyone else. He needs to hear the good news. The price has been paid.

Jesus took all of the judgment of the world. In John 12:48, Jesus says, “*There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words. That very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.*” The one who rejects Jesus will be judged. The one who believes on Jesus will not be judged.

John 5:24 says, “*I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has (right now) eternal life and will not be condemned (or will not be*

*brought into judgment.) He has crossed from death into life.”* The one who believes on Jesus will not be judged. When we accepted Jesus, we accepted the righteous judgment against us. We accepted the judgment upon our old nature. We said, “This man needs to die.” That is what happened when we accepted Jesus. That man died. We do not want that life and do not want to be that person any more. Jesus gives us righteousness as a free gift. The person who does not have faith-righteousness will be judged by their works. If you reject the righteousness of God, you are saying, “The righteousness of Jesus is not enough. I want to be judged by my own righteous works.”

Revelation 20:11-15 says, *“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, there was no place for them, and I was the dead, great and small, standing before the throne and the books were opened. Another book was opened which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The seas gave up the dead that were in them, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them and each person was judged according to what he had done or according to his work. Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”* The Bible goes on to say that the second death has no power over those whose names were found in the Book of Life. If your name is in the Book of Life, you will not be in the great white throne of judgment.

There are two judgments: the great white throne of judgment and the judgment seat of Christ. The great white throne of judgment is for people who rejected righteousness as a free gift and want to be judged by their own righteousness. God says, “If that is what you want, fine.” The only problem is the works of the flesh shall save no man. Even the law said that it could not make you righteousness, but if that is what you want, that is your choice.

2 Corinthians 5:10 says, *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ that each one may receive what is due him for the things he has done while in his body whether good or bad.”* We, the believers, are going to appear before the judgment seat of Christ. There are horror stories about the judgment seat of Christ. Scriptures are taken out of context, such as, *“That which you whisper in secret will be*

*shouted from the housetops.”* People teach this scripture and say that when we stand before Jesus they will plug in the videotape and every secret thing we have ever done will be played before everyone.

Believers will appear before the judgment seat of Christ and we will be judged according to our works. We are not being judged as to whether or not we are going to heaven. The judgment seat of Christ is not a place where decision is made about whether or not you qualify to get into heaven. The judgment seat of Christ is the place where you go to receive rewards.

In 2 Corinthians 3:10-15 Paul says, *“By the grace God has given me, I lay the foundation as an expert builder. Someone else is building on it, but each one should be careful how he builds for no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If any man build from this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is because the day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work. If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burnt up, he will suffer loss. He himself will be saved but only as by one escaping through the flames.”*

We will stand before Jesus, but we are there for rewards, not for punishment. There will be no weeping or sorrow. If our traditional concepts of the judgment seat of Christ were true, there would be a lot of weeping there. Scripture cannot contradict scripture. The Bible clearly states that it is a place of rewards. It is like putting all of my works in my little wagon to go before Jesus, (the judgment seat of Christ), to get my rewards. It is like passing through an airport metal detector, except you pass through the fire. Fire will not have any power over me because I have been raised from the dead and have an immortal body. The fire will not hurt me. I drag my little wagon full of my works through the fire. All of my works are tested by the fire. There will be a lot of people who go through the fire and all of their works will be burned.

Jesus is going to say, “I am glad to see you, son. I am glad you are here.” He will not beat them up or condemn them. The purpose for works passing through the fire before you stand in His presence is so that there is no condemnation. There are only rewards. On the other hand, I drag my wagon full of works through the fire and the wood, hay, and stubble burn, but the works made from gold, silver and precious

stone endures. We are not judged to see if we get into heaven, but to receive rewards. Rewards are based on good works. That which is unacceptable to God will burn, therefore, there is no reason for fear or shame in the presence of God.

For this reason, it is important to know the difference between good works and dead works. Dead works are the things that I did to earn something from God, to qualify, to become righteous. Good works, on the other hand, are those things that I did from good motives because I love God and I care about people, I want to be a servant and I wanted to help. This is what determines if the works you do are good works or dead works. That is what determines if they survive the fire. The Bible teaches that even if all of our works are burned, we will be saved. You will pass through the fire so there will be nothing to condemn you. There will be nothing for which you will be ashamed when you stand in the presence of God. However, this life is the one and only time you will have to make an investment in eternity.

I do not understand all there is to know about eternal rewards. Some try to say there are no rewards. The Bible is very clear, however; there are rewards. There is a lot that I do not know about rewards. As far as I am concerned, once we get them, we are just going to lay them at the feet of Jesus. I do know this is the only time we have to invest in eternity. There is no other time.

Isaiah 54:17 says, *“No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue that shall rise up against you in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from me.”*

It is very important that we reject the message of the “judgment preacher.” There are many good men and women who are godly people, but they preach the message of judgment. They do not have themselves established in this foundation of faith called eternal judgment. We, who have received Jesus, have already been eternally judged. There will be a Day of Judgment, but the Bible says we are delivered from wrath. Every scripture in the New Testament that talks about a time of judgment is pointing to a time in the future. If you research the tenses of the words in the original language, you will find this is very clear. *“God said this is to me as water of Noah. This I swore to Noah that I would never destroy the world by water again, so have I also sworn that I would not be angry with you, and I would not rebuke you.”* If a person proclaims that a bad event is the judgment of God, we should refuse it. We should not

accept it; we should not condone or consider it. The Bible says we should condemn it. That does not mean that we have to attack those people, but we should totally refuse it. You should never listen to messages that make you afraid of judgment.

1 John 4 says that if you are afraid of judgment, it shows that you do not really believe that God loves you with a perfect love. The message of judgment does not promote the love of God. It does not promote peace in your heart or confidence between you and God. It does not build faith. It does not do one thing positive to you. It makes you afraid of God. It makes you participate in dead works instead of good works. It will ultimately get you back under law and back into sin. It does not matter how much we respect the person saying it. God is not going to judge America.

There is one day of judgment and that is for sinners. It is going to be the White Throne Judgment. There is going to be one day of judgment for the believers and that is going to be the Judgment Seat of Christ. The scripture says we should **never** accept the message of judgment because of the way it will undermine our confidence in the love of God.

**FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH**  
**Class # 7**  
**ETERNAL JUDGMENT**

Psalm 11:3 *"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"*

The thought of judgment brings \_\_\_\_\_ to those who are not established in the \_\_\_\_\_.

John 12:31 *"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. 32) And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."*

\_\_\_\_\_ took all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.

John 12: 48, NIV, *"There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day."*

The one who \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus will be judged.

John 5:24, NIV, *"I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."*

The one who believes on Jesus will not be \_\_\_\_\_.

We accept the righteous judgment of God against us now.

Jesus gives us \_\_\_\_\_ as a free gift.

The person who does not have faith righteousness will be judged by his \_\_\_\_\_.

Revelation 20:11-15, NIV, *"Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12) And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. 13) The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. 14) Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15) If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."*

If your name is in the \_\_\_\_\_ you will not be in the Great White Throne of Judgement.

2 Corinthians 5:10,NIV *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that*

*each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.”*

\_\_\_\_\_ will appear before the Judgement Seat of Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15, NIV, *“By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. 11) For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12) If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, 13) his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man’s work. 14) If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. 15) If it is burned up, he will suffer loss; he himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames.”*

We are judged to receive \_\_\_\_\_.

Rewards are based on \_\_\_\_\_.

That which is unacceptable to God will be \_\_\_\_\_.

There will be no reason for fear or shame in the presence of God.

Isaiah 54:17, *“No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.”*

We should never accept a message of \_\_\_\_\_.

Resource: Review the book, *“The Gospel of Peace”* by Dr. Jim Richards

# TRANSFORMING THE THOUGHT LIFE

Transforming the thought life is not a part of the foundations, but I feel that I should touch on this. It is assumed to be required in the foundations.

We said that the word “repent” means to have a change of mind. When you got saved or just before you got saved, you thought that you knew it all. You probably got saved because you finally figured out that you did not know it all. You changed your mind about your need for God.

Before I got saved I believed some stupid things. I had a religious grandmother who had some strange religious beliefs. I did not believe most of them and I thought that most of them were absurd. I thought, “If God is that stupid, I really do not want to have anything to do with Him.” But you still pick up beliefs throughout your life. Not only do you pick up beliefs about God, but also beliefs about yourself.

The two areas of belief you want to deal with are what you believe about God and what you believe about you. What you believe about God will determine what you believe about you. What you believe about you will ultimately determine your self-worth and everything you do with your life. Everything you do rises from your sense of self-worth. To some degree, your vulnerability to sin arises out of your level of self-worth.

If you continue to believe the same way you have believed, even though you are saved, you will keep having the same problems. The main reason Christians continue to have the same temptations and the same struggles throughout their lives is because they do not change what they believe.

Throughout my Christian life, there have been and will continue to be key times and places where I must sit down and say, “I realize that my thinking is more influenced by people than by the Word of God.” I do not want you to believe anything I say if you cannot verify it by the Word of God. Take this study, read the Word of God for yourself and reach your own conclusions.

When I got saved, I basically said, “God, here is the deal. I will give you my life if you want it. I will not play religion or the games that I see people play. That is



disgusting to me. I do not want to be like that.” I did not want to be like any Christian I knew. All of the Christians I knew were mean, hateful, two-faced and spineless. I also told God, “I will only believe what I can personally find in the Bible.” That did not mean that I would not let somebody teach me, but no matter what someone taught, I was going to confirm it in the Bible. If it is in the Bible, I will take it. If it is not in the Bible, I am either going to reject it or I am going to sit it on the shelf. Maybe they are seeing something I am not seeing, but I am going to sit it on the shelf until I can see it. I am not going to let it influence the way I approach life.

I had to make adjustments on a regular basis. As I grew and listened to people preach and teach I realized they were influencing me. I realized I was sometimes influenced by old beliefs. Most of the major turning points in my life were at times I realized I was being influenced by a belief that did not come out of the Bible, but out of my background, traditions, or culture.

When I got healed of my kidney disease, I was walking it out. The final point for me occurred when I had just gotten out of the hospital. I was walking at seven o'clock one morning on Holmes Avenue during rush-hour traffic, praying and worshipping God. The Lord spoke to me and said, “You do not believe the truth. You believe what other people have influenced you to believe.” I just stood on the side of the road, looking up into heaven, talking to God. I said, “What do you mean? My whole life I have swam upstream. I refused to give in to tradition.” God spoke once again and said, “You do not believe the truth. You believe what people influence you to believe.” I argued with God some more and finally, He said, “In the area of healing you do not believe the truth. You believe what others have influenced you to believe.” I got on my knees, there on that sidewalk, and said, “All right, I am going to read the New Testament again, as if I have never read it. I am going to read every scripture in the Bible again as if I have never read it, and I am going to see what I am missing.”

A unique thing happened that day. I went home, laid down to take a nap and I had a dream. In this dream I saw every church service I had been in from the first day I got saved. It was like turning pages of a book. I saw what they said about healing. I saw how, back in the Baptist church, when someone said anything about healing they would always add “if it by thy will.” I saw the Charismatic churches I had attended where they gave people the requirements they had to meet. I awoke from that dream

and realized that people had influenced me more than the Bible. I began to read those scriptures about healing again, as if I had never read them. The result of that came in a few weeks when I completely walked out of that disease.

I did the same thing with prosperity. When I walked out of that sickness, I was still financially destitute. Brenda and I made a decision to once again read the scriptures concerning prosperity. We looked at all of those things again and, we walked out of all of those curses, one by one. This happened because we refused to keep accepting the tradition of men. The tradition of men makes the Word of God of no effect.

Romans 12:1-2 says, *“Therefore I urge you brothers, in the view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual or reasonable act of worship or service. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and prove that God’s will is his good, pleasing, and perfect will.”* The word “transformed,” is the word “metamorphosis.” Metamorphose means to change from the inside out. It is like the caterpillar that turns into a butterfly. He was a butterfly on the inside all along; it just had to come through to the outside. It is like the acorn that grows to be a giant oak. The acorn does not have to become something else. It does not have to become an oak tree. What is already in him has to come out and grow. If there is anything that will destroy you, it is the need to become something you are not. Trying to become something is devastating. Trying to become righteous, trying to become holy will kill you. You cannot do it. If you say you have to **“become something,”** in your heart you are saying you “are not.” If I have to **become** righteous, then I have to believe I am not righteous. If I have to **become** anointed, then I have to believe I am not anointed.

The change that God wants to take us through is a transformation. We were made righteous the instant that we were born again. Righteousness is on the inside of you. You are not trying to **become** righteous. You are trying to facilitate that righteousness, which is already in you, getting to the outside, so is in your actions and in your thoughts. Our spirit is righteous and we want to walk in righteousness. In order for that which is in my spirit to come out, I must renew my mind. I cannot think about things the way I did before.

The mind is the doorway of the heart. The book of Proverbs teaches “*As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*” The word “thinketh” comes from two Hebrew words, which basically mean “doorkeeper.” A man’s thoughts are the doorkeeper of his heart. The doorkeeper not only determines what can get **into** your heart, but also what can come **out** of your heart. Although you have righteousness inside of you, it cannot come out of your heart if your thoughts are not consistent with that reality. Even though you have been made righteous on the inside, if you do not think that you are righteous, the doorkeeper will not let it out of your heart. It is the same as healing. If you think you have to get healing, then the doorkeeper will never let the healing you have come out of your heart. If you think that you have to get prosperous, then the doorkeeper will never let the prosperity that is on the inside of you come out. You will always end up back in works trying to make something happen.

In Romans 8:6 it says, “*For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*” We tend to think that being carnally minded is having nasty, dirty thoughts. Nasty, dirty thoughts are obviously not good for you, but the word “carnal” means natural. To be carnal minded is to be natural minded. You saw things from a natural perspective before you got saved. But you cannot think about God, life or yourself the same way you did before receiving Christ. That is being naturally minded and natural mindedness leads to death. Spiritual mindedness leads to life in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 10:4 says, “*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*” We are in warfare, but our warfare is not with the devil. The warfare is with our minds, our thoughts. Satan has already been defeated. Any Christian fighting the devil is wasting his time. Many Christians who fight the devil do not believe that Jesus totally conquered the devil. The devil is not the problem. Our thoughts are the problem.

In the book of Peter it talks about how lust wars in our soul. In other words, there is warfare, but that warfare is taking place in my soul, my mind and emotions. The warfare is not taking place between the devil and me, but in my thoughts. Lusts war against my mind. When I was sick, the battle that was going on was the sickness

in my body, telling my mind that healing was not mine. This is easy to believe when you are hurting all over your body. The warfare was whether or not I would believe that I had healing through Jesus. When I was desperate in poverty, the warfare was in not having enough gas, or food to eat. All of that said to my mind, to my natural reasoning, "You must not have God's blessing in the area of prosperity. You better figure out some way to get it." The war in the area of righteousness is finding yourself messing up and your mind saying, "See, you are not righteous. You better get some righteousness." When we set out to get something, we deny that we already have it. I have news for you . . . God has nothing left to give you. He gave you EVERYTHING when He gave you Jesus. There is nothing left to give.

Hebrews 10:26 says, "*For if we willfully sin after receiving knowledge of the truth there remains no more sacrifice for sins, But a fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.*" The moment I say that I did not get this (healing, prosperity, etc.) when I received Jesus, the problem is that there is no more sacrifice. Therefore, I end up in torment, expecting the worst, wondering if I am ever going to qualify. There is no other sacrifice. Either Jesus gave us what God had or He did not. If He did not give it to us, then we cannot get it. We cannot earn it.

A vain imagination is any thought not based on reality, not based on the Word of God. I should cast down every vain imagination. Our warfare is to bring every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. This does not mean that you have to make your thoughts obey you. Trying to catch hold of a thought is like trying to catch a goldfish. They are slippery and you can hardly hold onto them. People try to control their thoughts. ("I am not going to think about this. I am not going to think about it.") Well, they **are** thinking about it. To not do something, you have to first think about it. Trying to control them is not the answer. You will only torment yourself.

To bring your thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ means that any time a thought comes, you have to determine what the obedience of Christ brought concerning that thought or fear. How am I going to bring this thought "I do not know if I have enough faith to get healed." captive to the obedience of Christ? I ask myself, "Did Jesus' obedience purchase healing for me or not? Yes, it did." I have brought that thought captive because now I do not have to try to get healing. Jesus' obedience got healing for me. Bring the thoughts "I have to pray and fast. I have to get that special

anointing.” to the obedience of Christ. Jesus got the anointing. I am in Jesus. Jesus has it, therefore, I have it. What does His obedience bring me (not what my obedience brings me or I can believe for)? Many people try to work faith for things that God did not give them. “I believe God for a big Cadillac.” There is not one word about a big Cadillac in scripture. I can believe for prosperity. I can believe that God brought me prosperity, and if out of my prosperity that is how I want to use it, then so be it. But I want to bring every thought captive to what Jesus’ obedience purchased.

Following are some simple steps to bringing your thoughts captive. First of all, and most importantly, is to know this New Covenant. Read the New Testament. Find a translation you like and understand. If it makes sense to you, read it. Do not read it because you are trying to make God happy with you. Read it to learn about God. For more than 25 years, every time I pick up my Bible, I say in my heart, “God, I am trusting you to speak to me and teach me out of this.” I can honestly say there has never been a time reading my Bible that God has not spoken to my heart. It may take you some time to recognize God’s voice. Sometimes when He speaks to you, it is just a word coming alive to you. You read something and it is like “Yeah! This is it!”

Learn how to meditate. When I come across something I do not understand I just close my eyes, kick my feet up, lay back and say, “God, I need some help on this one.” I think about what it means and what it means to me? I Sometimes get an understanding right away and I sometimes have to put it on the shelf and say, “I do not understand this yet, but it’s all right. I will figure it out later.”

Second, when vain imaginations come, whether in the form of temptations, feeling rejected, works righteousness or anything, **immediately** bring that thought captive to what Jesus accomplished through His death, burial and resurrection. “*The Prayer Organizer*”<sup>1</sup> is one of the best tools we have for helping people renew their minds. Use “*The Prayer Organizer*” the first 30 minutes in the morning and the last 30 minutes at night. As you become accustomed to personalizing these scriptures, when something comes at you or pops up in your mind that is contradictory to those scriptures, you will immediately identify it. It will effortlessly emerge from your heart. “By His stripes I am healed. I have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ. No weapon formed against me is going to prosper.” **Immediately**, do not wait, do not

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<sup>1</sup> *The Prayer Organizer* is an excellent tool for establishing a prayer life that builds faith and self-worth.

ponder it, **immediately** raise the shield of faith and quench that fiery dart. The shield of faith is when you believe the truth.

Changing your opinions to line up with God's opinions is simple. When you are reading the Bible and see something that conflicts with your beliefs, deal with it. When you come up on something about marriage, relationships, honesty, anger, or anything that challenges your beliefs, repent. Many people fight against giving and refuse to believe the truth about it. God still loves them, but the way to solve that problem is not to try to prove it wrong. When you see something about giving, just say, "God, giving must be good for me. You put it in here. I am struggling with this God, and I do not want to give. But I am willing to let you work in me because I know that, in the end, it is going to be good for me." That is the starting place.

The Bible says be willing and obedient to eat the good of the land. Willingness precedes obedience. When becoming willing you are not saying, "I am going to do this, God." You are just saying "I am willing to let You work in me and bring me to a place where I can do this." Just change your opinions.

If something is happening in your life which is not consistent with the Bible, do not accept it as reality. Jonah 2:8 says, "*They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.*" In other words, when we look at the circumstances of life and say it is reality, we forsake the mercies of God. We get ourselves to a place where we are controlled by this present reality instead of a more powerful reality. Paul said he did not look on temporary things. He said, "*I do not look on that which is visible. I look on the invisible, because that is the reality.*" There is a realm of reality and you have to look at it first. Do not accept it as reality if it is not in the Bible. WALK BY FAITH!

Hebrews 11:6 says, "*But without faith it is impossible to please God: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*" Unfortunately, most of what we have been taught about faith is actually dead works. We have been taught that faith is something we do to get God to respond to us. God says, "*What can you do for me that I should owe you anything?*" There is nothing we can do for God that should make Him respond to us. There is nothing we can do to make Him indebted to us.

This unhealthy concept of faith says that God has not given me what I need and I must convince this unfriendly God to give me something He is withholding from me.

Faith is not how we get God to respond to us, but our response of trust to what God has already given us in Jesus. Trying to confess enough to make something happen is not faith. That is unbelief. When a person is trying to get God to do something He has already done in Jesus, it is unbelief and what they are confessing is a statement of unbelief. Faith is my response of trust to what God has done for me through Jesus. Unbelief is my lack of trust for what God has done for me through Jesus. When I accept God's opinion, I am walking in faith. Whether I can get it to work or not, I am walking in faith.

I can remember the day I sat in my bed and said, "All right God, Galatians 3:13 says that I am redeemed from the curse of the Law, yet my whole life is a curse. I am sick. I am probably dying. I am broke and everything in my life has gone wrong. There is hardly one thing I can look at in my life right now that is not a curse. But you said that I am redeemed from the curse of the law. This curse might be here, but it does not have the right to be here." We do not deny the reality. We deny the right. If the curse is here, it is because I gave it the right to be here. I said, "From this day forward, I will not accept the curse of sickness in my life."

I turned to 2 Corinthians 1:20 where it says, "*All of the promises of God are Yes in Jesus.*" I said, "God, the promises are not working in my life, but you said that they are yes for me if I am in Jesus. From this day forward I say that I believe the promises. Not that I am going to get them, I say that I am going to live in them. From this day forward, I am accepting the reality of the promises and the curse has no right."

Then I said to myself, "Healthy people do not sit around in the bed all day. If healing is mine, I cannot experience it unless I am up walking it out. I am getting up out of this bed and taking a shower." I got up out of bed and was so weak that I could hardly stand. Everything warred against my mind. The pain and nausea would say, "See, you are not healed. Healing is not yours." I would say, "Yes, in the name of Jesus, healing is mine." The war was going on in my mind. It took me all morning just to take a shower because I was so weak. I would wash a little and rest a little. I got out of the shower, put the commode lid down and sat there, completely exhausted. I do not know how long it took me to shower and get dressed, but if healing was mine I was going to walk in it.

Some people ask, "Jim, when did it come?" We are always looking for the fire,

the earthquake and the wind, but God said, "I am in the still, small voice." I walked in it day by day. I got stronger and stronger until one day the reality of health was more real to me than sickness. When health became more real, in my heart, than sickness, I walked out of that sickness. When Peter was walking on water and began to sink, he did not go straight to the bottom. He sank a little at a time. He sank to the degree of his fear and unbelief. That is sometimes the way we come out of things. Every now and then we launch out of something, but we usually emerge from it to the degree that we give up our fear and unbelief.

I cannot accept anything as reality if it is not based on the Word of God. My faith pleases God. Whether I can get it to work or not, it still pleases God. When I trust God, I have life and peace. When you do not have peace, you are simply not trusting God in that area. That does not make you a bad person. It does not make God angry. It makes you not have peace.

Philippians 4:7 says, "*And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep your hearts and your minds through Christ Jesus.*" This is not saying that tranquillity in your mind will keep you. He is talking about this peace that exists between you and God. This peace will keep your heart and your mind stable through the Lord Jesus, regardless of the circumstances.

Renew your opinions about God beginning with these six foundational doctrines. From these, you have the foundation to build a life of peace, prosperity and victory.



**FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH**  
**Class # 8**  
**TRANSFORMING THE THOUGHT LIFE**

Psalm 11:3, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"

The literal meaning of repentance is, "to have a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

Romans 12:1-2, NIV, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God=s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God this is your spiritual (or reasonable) act of worship. 2) Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God=s will is his good, pleasing and perfect will."

The word "transformed" means \_\_\_\_\_.

Metamorphose is change \_\_\_\_\_.

We have been made \_\_\_\_\_.

Our spirit is righteous, but we want to walk in righteousness. In order for that which is in my spirit to come out I must \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 8:6, "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."

The word "carnal" means \_\_\_\_\_.

I cannot think about God, life, or myself the way I thought before \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Corinthians 10:4, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; 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."

My warfare is not with the \_\_\_\_\_ it is with my \_\_\_\_\_.

Our warfare is to bring every thought captive to the obedience of \_\_\_\_\_.

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Steps to bringing thoughts captive:

1. Know the New Covenant. (Read the New Testament.)
2. When vain imaginations come (temptations, rejection, works righteousness, etc.) bring it captive to what Jesus accomplished through His death, burial and resurrection.
3. Change your opinions to line up with God's opinions
4. If it is not Bible do not accept it as reality.

I must walk by \_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 11:6, "*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*"

Faith is our \_\_\_\_\_ of trust to what God has done for us through the Lord Jesus.

Unbelief is our lack of \_\_\_\_\_ for what God has done for us through the Lord Jesus.

When I accept God's opinion I am walking in \_\_\_\_\_.

My faith \_\_\_\_\_ God.

When I trust God I have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 4:7 "*And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*"











