

**The UNSURRENDERED MIND**  
*How We Get Bent Out of Shape*

**God's creation becomes an ugly *mess* when it gets *out* of God's hand.**

And the earth was **without form**, and **void**; and **darkness** was upon the face of the deep. And the **Spirit of God moved** upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be **light**: and there was **light**. (Genesis 1:2,3)

**Our lives are formed into something "fair" (i.e., beautiful) when we let God *teach* (i.e., inform) us.**

O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with **fair** colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.

And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of **pleasant** stones.

And all thy children shall be **taught** of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. (Isaiah 54:11-13)

**God cannot *inform* those who don't *seek* His input.**

The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not **seek** after God: **God is not in all his thoughts**. (Psalm 10:4)

**Until we are born again we are *hostile* to God's *total* involvement in our thought life.**

And you, that were sometime alienated and **enemies** in **your mind** by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled (Colossians 1:21)

**Those who are *unregenerated* (i.e., "in the flesh") naturally direct their *minds* to the things of the flesh.**

**Those who are *regenerated* (i.e., "in the Spirit") are supernaturally directed to the things of the Spirit.**

For they that are **after** the **flesh** do **mind** the **things** of the **flesh**; but they that are **after** the **Spirit** the **things** of the **Spirit**. (Romans 8:5)

**Total surrender of one's mind to the things of the Spirit and complete *submission* to the law of God is *impossible* for the unsaved.**

For to be **carnally minded** is **death**; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Because the **carnal mind** is **enmity against God**: for it is **not subject** to the **law of God**, neither indeed **can** be.

So then they that are **in the flesh cannot please God**. (Romans 8:6-8)

**Only when we enter the New Covenant is God able to *put* all His law in our *mind* and write it in our hearts.**

For this is the **covenant** that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will **put** my laws into their **mind**, and **write** them in their **hearts**: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people (Hebrews 8:10)

**God cannot shape the unsundered life because it does not *look* for God's direction.**

Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and **see**, and **ask** for the old paths, where is the **good way**, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, **We will not** walk therein. (Jeremiah 6:16)

**Unsundered man give himself *permission* to think on whatever he *chooses* to.**

**Why** do the heathen rage, and the people **imagine** a **vain** thing?

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us **break** their **bands asunder**, and **cast away** their **CORDS** from us. (Psalm 2:1-3)

*imagine* > Hebrew - hagah > *meditate*

**Man's wickedness is in *proportion* to how *much* he shuts God out of his thought life.**

And GOD saw that the **wickedness** of man was **great** in the earth, and that **every imagination** of the **thoughts** of his **heart** was **only evil continually**. (Genesis 6:5)

*imaginations* > Hebrew noun - yetser > *formulations*

(The Hebrew word for Potter is the verb yatsar which is also translated form, fashion and frame.)

*thoughts* > Hebrew noun - machashabah > *devices, plans, inventions*

**Our minds can *formulate* and *design* many things.**

**They are *evil* (and *fleeting*) or *good* (and *lasting*) depending on whether we have had God's *input*.**

There are **many devices** in a man's heart; nevertheless the **counsel** of the **LORD**, that shall **stand**. (Proverbs 19:21)

**What comes into our mind and what we allow to stay in our mind (or meditate upon) are two different things.**

**Thoughts can spontaneously "arise" in our hearts.**

But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do **thoughts arise** in your **hearts**? (Luke 24:37,38)

**Thoughts can come into our mind that are *unsolicited*.**

As for thee, O king, thy **thoughts came into thy mind** upon thy **bed**, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass. (Daniel 2:29)

**When we are not letting God *regulate* our thought life, we can turn thoughts which come into our mind into an *evil plan*.**

Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things **come into thy mind**, and thou shalt **think an evil thought** (Ezekiel 38:10)

**We can "set our heart" on *money and material things*.**

Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, **set not your heart upon them**. (Psalm 62:10)

**In our *thoughts* we can *fashion* an idol that we *secretly* worship.**

Cursed be the man that maketh any graven or molten image, an abomination unto the LORD, the **work** of the **hands** of the **craftsman**, and **putteth it** in a **secret place**. And all the people shall answer and say, Amen. (Deuteronomy 27:15)

*putteth* > Hebrew verb - suwm > *to set, place, position, plant, station, fix*

**The ungodly erect a shrine in their heart upon which they "set up" their *idol*.**

Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me. And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, these men have **set up** their **idols** in their **heart**, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them? (Ezekiel 14:1-3)

**If the *meditation* on our "bed" is not acceptable in God's sight, we will prime ourselves for *behavior* that is unacceptable when we "arise."**

And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David **arose** from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he **saw** a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. (2 Samuel 11:2)

**The things we *permit* ourselves to meditate upon *will* find their *expresssion* in our words and actions.**

Woe to them that **devise iniquity**, and **work evil** upon their **beds!** **when** the **morning** is **light**, they **practise** it, because it is in the power of their hand. (Micah 2:1)

**The way we walk (and the people we become) is the creation and product of the things we formulate in our minds.**

I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which **walketh** in a **way** that was **not good**, **after** their **own thoughts** (Isaiah 65:2)

**God calls men to "evict" vain thoughts before they formulate into dangerous plans.**

O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. **How long** shall thy **vain thoughts lodge** within thee? (Jeremiah 4:14)

**We can pick up so much steam by giving our mind over to certain thoughts that we cannot stop our feet from going down that path.**

And they said, There is **no hope**: but we **will walk** after our own **devices**, and **we will** every one do the **imagination** of his evil heart. (Jeremiah 18:12)

**We "run" in a certain direction "fueled" by what we have been thinking.**

Their feet **run** to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their **thoughts** are **thoughts** of **iniquity**; **wasting** and **destruction** are in their **paths**. (Isaiah 59:7)

**God knows how much of our treasure we are wasting in plans that are vain/empty/worthless.**

The LORD **knoweth** the **thoughts** of man, that they are **vanity**. (Psalm 94:11)

**Our plans that exclude God are an abomination to Him.**

The **thoughts** of the wicked are an **abomination** to the LORD: but the words of the pure are pleasant words. (Proverbs 15:26)

**We set ourselves to walk in a way that is not good, when we have not hated what God calls evil and allowed ourselves to meditate upon it.**

He **deviseth mischief** upon his bed; he **setteth himself** in a way that is **not good**; he **abhorreth not evil**. (Psalm 36:4)

**To walk in the *fear* of the Lord is to walk in a hatred for what God *hates*.  
If we are to hate the *evil way*, we must hate the evil thoughts that turn our feet into it.**

The **fear** of the **LORD** is to **hate evil**: pride, and arrogancy, and the **evil way**, and the froward mouth, do I **hate**. (Proverbs 8:13)

**We get "bent out of" God's *shape* and bent away from God's path when we sit in the *counsel* of the ungodly.**

The **ungodly** are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.  
Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.  
For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the **ungodly** shall **perish**.  
(Psalm 1:4-6)

**Despite any *help* we have received from men to fulfill our hopes and plans, without God's hand upon our life, our grandest *dreams* (i.e., "thoughts") will *perish* forever in the day of our death.**

Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.  
While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.  
Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no **help**.  
His **breath goeth forth**, he **returneth to his earth**; in that **very day** his **thoughts perish**.  
Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his **help**, whose hope is in the LORD his God:  
Which **made** heaven, and earth, the sea, and **all** that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever  
(Psalm 146:1-6)

**Men labor to craft a life which they think their *posterity* will *approve* of after they are gone. But while they think they can make something excellent out of their life with it in their own hands, in the end they, and all others, will know that their "way" was *folly* and ultimately *worthless*.**

Their **inward thought** is, that their houses shall **continue for ever**, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.  
Nevertheless man being in **honour abideth not**: he is like the beasts that perish.  
This their **way** is their **folly**: yet their **posterity approve** their sayings. Selah. (Psalm 49:11,12)