

How Satan Attacks The Saints: Our Thought Life (1st continuation)

KJV 1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

This is the meaning of being “sober and vigilant” it’s being on alert **having a mindset of preparedness!**

- **The opposite of being vigilant is being passive & uncaring!**

A passive mind is one that is empty, unprepared and indifferent to spiritual things.

NAS 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...!

- **The first thing Paul wants us to know is thoughts, ideas and concepts are spirits!**

Paul says saints must “cast down, deconstruct and disassemble” thoughts, ideas and concepts.

Every action begins with a thought an idea conceived in the mind that is carried out by the body!

Last time we talks about Edward Bernays the father of Propaganda and Public Relations. He took the practice of psychoanalysis from his uncle Sigmund Freud and called in “Focus Groups” to determine what peoples inner most desires are and then helped corporations and governments fulfill them in order to manipulate the masses.

Play video: <https://youtu.be/B5BTKWSyqTQ>

Creating peoples desires and meeting them became the way for Big Business and Government to control the masses.

NIV 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

The god of this world is using nothing new, his tactics are as old as time he preys on the deepest desires of the flesh to control mankind.

This is what Satan did in the garden—he uncovered Eve’s deep desire to be wise **Gen 3:6** and she sinned against God.

She was driven to disobey God by her deep desire to please herself!

Satan had placed the idea her mind that she needed that fruit to fulfill a deep desire in her heart!

NIV Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

KJV Genesis 3:4-5 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Satan convinced Eve she would be a better person once she tasted the fruit.

- **The Thought Life is the beginning of demonic activity!**

KJV Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:

Just as what we eat is food for the body, what we think & learn is food for the mind!

God destroyed the earth because of men’s thoughts which led to evil.

KJV Genesis 6:5 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. People’s plans and desires were mostly evil.

*KJV Romans 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became **vain in their imaginations**, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

Vain imaginations means “foolish thinking” but it also refers to “debates”! Challenging and debating the Truth of God’s Word.

NIV Psalm 10:4 In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

KJV Matthew 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Jesus says “take no thought” for your life!

- Don’t be overly concerned to the point of debating, worrying or being foolish about eating, drinking and fashion!

Being consumed with “Eating and drinking” is saying that refers to idolatry.

It’s not that we shouldn’t plan our meals or have dinner parties!

It refers to a lifestyle of pleasure with no concern for anyone but ourselves. It’s the carefree lifestyle of our time!

NIV 1 Corinthians 10:7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry."

This is a reference to the children of Israel in the wilderness when Aaron forged an idol from the gold of Egypt.

NAS Exodus 32:3-7 Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.

4 And he took this from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

5 Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD."

6 So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

7 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, "Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves.

Being consumed with thoughts of pleasure “eating and drinking” led to Israel corrupting themselves and sinning against God.

NIV Matthew 24:37-38 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark;

In the days of Noah men’s thought were **wicked** continually **Gen 6:5!**

A big part of their thoughts and wickedness was the constant insatiable desire to celebrate and satisfy the desires of the flesh by eating, drinking and partying non-stop!

Have you noticed our cultures love for pleasure! How it makes everything about having fun. If it looks like fun people will try it at least once.

Again we find the world using psychology one of Sigmund Freud’s ideas to control our lives called “The Pleasure Principle.”

The Pleasure Principle is the driving force of our deepest desires that seeks immediate gratification of all needs, wants, and urges. In other words, the pleasure principle strives to fulfill our most basic and primitive urges, including hunger, thirst, anger, and sex. When these needs are not met, the result is a state of anxiety or tension.

So Satan (the god of this world) uses propaganda, advertising and capitalism to manipulate us into thinking we have to have certain things or we don’t feel good about ourselves.

KJV Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- **We must be careful not to let the world tell us what to think of the church!**

What I mean is let the world shape our thinking to where we see the church only as another place that meets our basic needs (food, clothing and shelter).

Or our secondary needs (according to Maslow) or social needs of respect, self-fulfillment and achievement.

What the world is doing is telling us they can meet our needs of respect, self-fulfillment and even achievement when we purchase certain products, live and act a certain way that is socially acceptable!

2 Tim 3:4b... In the last days perilous times (hard to do, hard to take & hard to look forward to) lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

When we think the world and its ways can only make us happy we have rejected God in our knowledge and are conforming to this world.

KJV Matthew 6:31-33 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

When our minds are transformed by The Word of God—when our thinking becomes more like Christ we are less and less controlled by the god of this world (Satan) and what we think, imagine and plan is kingdom building rather than self/worldliness building.

Then we begin to truly understand and walk in this powerful principle:

KJV Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

We live in a needs based society! Our society tells us what we need through the media—we believe it and use our time to make money to buy the things they tell us we need.

The ruling powers control our lives because our time is spent getting what they say we can't live without.

The real issue is who are we letting dictate our happy? Who are we going to let meet our needs, the world or God!

I'm not saying we don't need some of the things the world tells us we need! I am saying that we do need **everything** God says we need.

So the real question is have our minds been manipulated into believing we need what (Satan) tells us we need and we ignore what God says we need?

NIV 2 Peter 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.