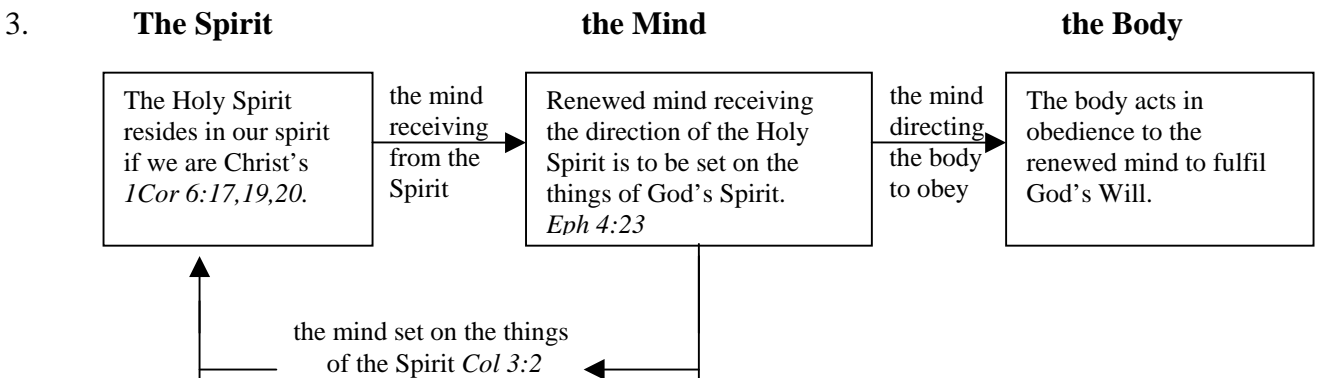


**THE RENEWED MIND IS THE VEHICLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

(EKB - Dec 1989)

1. **The mind has a very important part to play** if we are to live and walk according to the Holy Spirit in the will of God.  
*Rom 8:5* “those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit”.  
*Rom 8:6* “to be spiritually minded, (or to be thinking on the things of the Spirit) is life and peace.”  
 Please read the rest of *Rom 8:5,6* and see the results of having a mind set on the things of the flesh.

2. *Rom 12:1,2*. Our reasonable, (logical) response and spiritual worship to God for all His wonderful saving grace to us through Jesus Christ, outlined for us in *Rom 1-11(chapters)*, is that we **offer our bodies as living sacrifices** to God to do His will, v1, and that our minds be renewed by the truth, light, principles, thoughts, values and attitudes of God’s Word, v2.



4. If the mind is set on the desires of the flesh, carnal, fleshly desires, or on what other people want, on philosophies of man, desires of money, property. possessions, position, covetousness, pride, fears, self-seeking, anxiety, self-will and rebellion, then the Holy Spirit is unable to flow through into the mind and produce obedient action in the body.  
*Rom 8:8* Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.  
*Rom 8:7* The carnal, fleshly mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God. (*Rom 8:2* - the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus).
5. **The Spirit** is the centre of Life, **the mind** is the channel of the Spirit, and **the body** is the active agent that does the works of obedience to God’s will.
6. **The renewed mind** is the vehicle of the Spirit enabling us to perform God’s will in our actions, and to operate effectively in this role. The renewed mind needs to be **set upon the things of God**, of His Word, His will and His Spirit.
7. This is the “sound mind” of *2Tim 1:7*. It is the source of “peace,” *Is 26:3*.

This is the “mind of Christ,” *1Cor 2:16*.

This is “setting your mind on things above,” *Col 3:2*.

This is “to be renewed in the spirit of your mind,” *Eph 4:23*.

8. The mind, the thought life, **is the battlefield** and we need to keep a close watch and control over what we think about. It is a battle to keep control of the mind and thought life, cutting off fearful thoughts, thoughts of doubt, evil expectation, pride, lust, rebellion, covetousness, self pity, guilt, condemnation, insecurity, rejection, jealousy, resentment, and judgmentalism towards others. Satan tempts us to sin through the thought life, *Jam 1:12-15*.

There are **stages of temptation** given here:

- a. being **drawn away** from God to a wrong thought, *v14*.
- b. being **enticed** by evil desire, *v14*.
- c. **conceiving** the sinful thought in the mind, *v15*.
- d. **carrying it** out in action, actual sin, *v15*.
- e. the result of sin being **death**, *v15*.

Sin begins in the mind and this is the place to defeat it. Cut it off at (a) above.

Immediately say, “In Jesus Name I reject that thought NOW!” Then lift your mind to praise God, pray for someone in need, sing a song of praise, quote the Word. Do not strive to fight against the sinful thought because this gives it more power and strength in you. (You are in fact focusing your mind on it).

The armour for the mind is the **helmet of salvation**, *Eph 6:17*, which is the **helmet of hope** of salvation, *1Thes 5:8*, and consists of the promises of God, *2Pet 1:4*, *2Cor 1:20*. Hope, knowing God is in control of the future, keeps the mind secure in God. *Is 41:10*, *Josh 1:8,9*, *Gen 28:15*, *1Pet 5:7*, *Ps 18:32*, *Heb 13:5,6*, *2Thes 3:3*, *2Tim 4:17,18*.