

Have in mind the things of God

It may seem innocent but it's actually very dangerous - Matt 16:21-23 - 21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that **he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things** at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he **must be killed and on the third day be raised to life**. 22 Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" 23 Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; YOU DO NOT HAVE IN MIND THE THINGS OF GOD, BUT THE THINGS OF MEN."

***What you have your mind or focus on IS actually your "purpose". Ask yourself, "What is my purpose or foundation for what I do". Your purpose will most likely change from time to time, while in reality, it SHOULD ALWAYS be GOD.**

Our lives are evidence of what our minds are on - Rom 8:5-8 - 5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; 7 the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. 8 Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

Christ is not just a part of our lives; he IS our lives - Col 3:2-4 - 2 **Set your minds on things above, NOT on earthly things**. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When **Christ, who IS your life**, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

When we live with any other purpose than God we work against God - Phil 3:18-21 - I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. 20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Enemies of the Cross:

- **Destiny is destruction - They live for variety not God's will** (Matt 7:13-14)
- **Their God – what they desire**
- **Things they flaunt & depend on should be their shame**
- **Their mind is on things of the world**

*Satan's goal is to get your attention away from God by any means necessary.

Some other dangerous purposes:

- Love ones
- Finances
- Happiness
- Career
- Self

Our values dictate our purpose - Matt 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart WILL BE ALSO.

Your purpose will dictate:

- What you do
- How you do...
- If you do...
- What you value
- How you value...
- Everything

HOW TO HAVE OUR MINDS ON THE THINGS OF GOD

We MUST make the right priority - Rom 8:12-13 - 12 Therefore, brothers, **we have an obligation** — but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. 13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,

We have to readjust our values - Luke 12:32-33 - 32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

Making sure you live with the same attitude Christ lived with. It's for our benefit and for our protection –

1 Peter 4:1-2 -Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. 2 As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God.

Simply make God the priority - Matt 7:24-27 - 24 "Therefore everyone who HEARS THESE WORDS OF MINE and PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation **on the rock**. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and DOES NOT put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."