**“As A Man Thinks In His Heart, So Is He” (Prov 23:7)**

Thinking: The Foundation Of The Christian Life - Part 1

**Introduction**

 **Correct actions (good works) are always preceded by correct thinking (I Cor 10:31)**

**Eph 2:10**, **James 1:22**, **Rom 10:13-14**

 **How do we arrive at correct thinking?**

 **What is the source of our thoughts?**

 **How do we think?**

**Understanding the Thought Process**

 **Secular Understanding**

**Ancient Greek maxim- “know thyself”**

**Socrates- “The unexamined life is not worth living.”**

**Ben Franklin- “There are three things that are extremely hard: steel, diamonds, and to know thyself”**

**Modern psychology- a materialistic view that looks only at the brain (neuroscience)**

 **Biblical Understanding**

**The totality of a human person (I Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12)**

**Body (Rom 12:1)**

**The material container of the immaterial parts**

**5 sense-organs (touch, sight, smell, hear, and taste)**

**1 organ (the brain) that relates the senses to the spirit and soul**

**Spirit (I Cor 2:11)**

**The immaterial center of logical thought**

**Soul (cf Rev 6:9-10)**

**The immaterial center of interpreting the 5 bodily senses to the mind, according to the values of the body.**

**Mind**

**Greek word ‘nous’**

 **The general confluence of spirit and soul exercising deliberation over received data from the 5 senses**

**Greek word ‘phren’**

 **A limited or focused area in the nous**

**Rom 8:4-5; Col 3:2**

**Heart**

**Greek word ‘kardia’**

**The whole realm of mind, will, and emotion**

 **Lk 24:32; Jn 14:1**

**Conscience**

**Greek word ‘suneidasis’**

**Closely associated knowledge that judges one’s personal behavior and actions as being good or bad**

 **Heb 10:1-3; Rom 14; I Cor 8**

**Understanding The Disruption Of The Human Thought Process**

 **The warning (concerning death)**

**Gen 2:7; cf James 2:26**

 **The effect of The Fall**

**I Cor 15: 21-22**

**Spiritual death Eph 2:1**

**Physical death Rom 5:12-14**

**The extreme character of spiritual death**

**Eph 4:17-19**

**Understanding Christ’s Cure For Fallen Thinking**

**The new birth (regeneration)**

**John 3:6; I Cor 6:7**

**The new mind (the mind of Christ)**

**I Cor 2:16**

**The new focus**

**Col 3:1-2; Eph 2:6**

**Conclusion**

**Every thought can be brought into obedience to Christ**

**II Cor 10:3-5 “…and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”**