

## Renewing our Minds - Part Five

(A Six Part Series)

Reason Five: It is important to renew our minds so that we can know what pleases God.

From the time we were small children, we learned the value of pleasing people. It was the means by which we felt accepted, made others happy and avoided punishment or rejection. However, past habits and processes we have established to please people, do not always please God. We must renew our minds so that we can learn what pleases Him and what does not please Him. Then we have to determine in our hearts that whatever the cost is to us, we will please God.

*(Galatians 1:10 GWT) "Am I saying this now to win the approval of people or God? Am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be Christ's servant."*

*(1 Thessalonians 4:1 GWT) "Now then, brothers and sisters, because of the Lord Jesus we ask and encourage you to excel in living a God-pleasing life even more than you already do. Do this the way we taught you."*

Example: *(Matthew 16:21-23 NKJV) "From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. {22} Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" {23} But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me (**dangerous trap-NLT, tempting me to sin-GWT, stumbling block-NIV, not helping me-ICB**), for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men (**only care about things that men think are important ICB, seeing things merely from a human point of view-NLT**)."*

Peter did not like what Jesus said. Jesus did not "please" Peter with His words. Jesus rebuked Peter and reminded him (and us) to be concerned with the things God thinks are important. Give them priority over what people think is important. We are to have God's view of what is pleasing and right.

*(1 Peter 3:16-17 GWT) "Keep your conscience clear. Then those who treat the good Christian life you live with contempt will feel ashamed that they have ridiculed you. {17} After all, if it is God's will, it's better to suffer for doing good than for doing wrong."*

<b>Pleases God</b>	<b>Pleases People - but not God</b>
Holiness	Tolerance of sinful behavior
Truth	Lies to “protect” yourself or others
Tithing	Spending God’s money on yourself
Love your enemies. No offenses	Hating those who hurt you <b>or others</b>
<b>Pleases God</b>	<b>Doesn’t Please God</b>
Faith (Hebrews 11:6)	Unbelief (Hebrews 3:12)
Obedience (1 Sam 15:22; Isa 1:19) (Heb 5:9) (Phil 2:8) (1 Peter 3:17)	Rebellion/Disobedience (Isaiah 1:20) (Titus 1:16; 3:3) (Heb 4:11)
Truthfulness (Ephesians 4:25)	Lying (Prov 6:17; 12:22; 13:5) False praise (flattery) (Prov 26:28)
Doing what is right (Micah 6:8)	Foolish ways (Prov 12:15; 14:12)
Love mercy (love being kind to others) (Micah 6:8) (Luke 6:36)	Cause trouble, conflict or strife (Prov 6:19) (1 Cor 3:3) (2 Timothy 2:23)
Walk Humbly with God (Micah 6:8)	Pride - Prov 6:17
Trust Him (Micah 6:8) (2 Cor 1:9-10) (1 Timothy 4:10)	Fear, worry, anxiety (Luke 12:29; Phil 4:6)
Diligence (Exo 15:26 Heb 11:6)	Laziness (Prov 13:4; 21:25)
Self-Control (Galatians 5:23)	Anger (provocation; exasperation) (Ephesians 4:31)
Forgiveness (Matt 6:14) (Luke 6:37)	Bitterness (Ephesians 4:31)
Generosity (Prov 22:9; 2 Corinthians 9:5-7; Phil 2:3-4)	Selfishness/Greed (Luke 12:21; 2 Corinthians 12:20; Galatians 5:20; Ephesians 4:17-19)
Love (1 John 4:8) (Ephesians 5:2)	Idolatry, immorality, testing God, complaining (1 Corinthians 10:5-13)

*(2 Peter 1:2-12 NKJV) “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, {3} as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, {4} by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. {5} But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, {6} to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, {7} to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. {8} For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. {9} For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. {10} Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; {11} for so an*

*entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. {12} For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present **truth.**"*