

Renewing our Minds - Part Six (Final Part of a Six Part Series)

The Conclusion of the Matter

Reason Six: It is important to renew our minds so that we can recognize and accomplish the will of God.

This is our sixth and final session. We have been studying the Scriptures to determine why it is so important to renew our minds. Let's review before we get to our final reason in this study.

We are to renew our minds so we can:

1. Think the way God thinks

*(Romans 11:33 NKJV) "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the **wisdom** and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!"*

2. Relate to one another as Christians

*(1 Corinthians 1:10 NLT) "Now, dear brothers and sisters, I appeal to you by the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ to **stop arguing** among yourselves. **Let there be real harmony so there won't be divisions in the church.** I plead with you to **be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.**"*

3. Be an example of Christ to everyone that comes in contact with us

*(1 Timothy 4:12-16 NIV) "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but **set an example** for the believers in **speech, in life, in love, in faith** and in **purity.**"*

4. Have an undivided heart toward God

*(Hebrews 3:10-13 NIV) "That is why I was angry with that generation, and I said, '**Their hearts are always going astray**, and they have not known my ways.' {11} So I declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.'" {12} See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving **heart that turns away from the living God.** {13} But encourage one another daily,*

as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness."

5. Know what pleases God

*(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."*

Reason Six: It is important to renew our minds so that we can recognize and accomplish the will of God.

(Ephesians 5:17 NKJV) "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

When we renew our minds and do the things we studied, it puts us in the enviable position of being...

1. Eager to do the will of God.

*(1 Peter 4:1-2 NLT) "So then, since Christ suffered physical pain, you must arm yourselves with the same attitude he had, and be ready to suffer, too. For if you are willing to suffer for Christ, you have decided to stop sinning. {2} And you won't spend the rest of your life chasing after evil desires, but **you will be anxious to do the will of God.**"*

2. Better able to recognize and accomplish the will of God.

Simply stated, when we renew our minds, we can know what God wants us to do and be. This brings us back to the main point of our original Scripture. Here is a selection of different translations.

*(Romans 12:2 NIV) "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.**"*

*(Romans 12:2 Amplified) "Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], **so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the***

good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].”

J.B. Phillips: Romans 12:2 “Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-mould your minds from within, **so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.**”

Weymouth: Romans 12:2 “And do not follow the customs of the present age, but be transformed by the entire renewal of your minds, **so that you may learn by experience what God's will is--that will which is good and beautiful and perfect.**”

Message Bible: Romans 12:2 “Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. **You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it.** Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.”

3. A recipient of all the promises and rewards God has for those who do His will.

(Hebrews 10:35-36 NLT) “Do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord, no matter what happens. Remember the great reward it brings you! {36} Patient endurance is what you need now, so you will **continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.**”

(1 John 2:17 NLT) “And this world is fading away, along with everything it craves. **But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.**”

Final Exercise

Prepare a five to ten minute teaching on the subject of the Importance of Renewing your Mind. Use any of the materials we have studied. Present your teaching to the study or fellowship group to which you belong.