

# CASTING DOWN WRONG THOUGHTS

## Cast Down Wrong Thoughts

### I. The only way to live a life of victory is to master the fundamentals of faith

- A. One big part of care of the sheep is to equip them with the things necessary to help them do well-Care for the sheep is not necessarily babying them by their bed side and catering to all their bad habits
- B. Our unwillingness to practice the fundamentals we've been taught will keep us from enjoying the high levels of victory
  - 1. Jim Rohn-Success is neither magical nor mysterious. Success is the natural consequence of consistently applying the basic fundamentals.
- C. Our craft is living by faith and we want to master it
  - 1. Michael Jordan mastered his craft-"The only way to relieve that pressure is to build your fundamentals, practice them over and over, so when game breaks down, you can handle anything that transpires. People didn't believe me when I told them I practiced harder than I played, but it was true. That's where my comfort zone was created. By the time the game came, all I had to do was react to what my body was already accustomed to doing."
  - 2. Jack Nicholas-Learn the fundamentals of the game and stick to them. Band-Aid remedies never last
- D. Fundamentals are challenging because they are basics-They are elementary and we've heard them before-Knowing the fundamentals and perfecting the fundamentals is two different things

### II. We supposed to cast down wrong thoughts and bring them into captivity to the obedience of Christ-*2Cor10:1-5-1*

- Paul myself beseech you by the meekness (humility, mild, gentle) and gentleness (patient, gentle, fair) of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you: <sup>2</sup>But I beseech you, that I may not be bold when I am present with that confidence, wherewith I think to be bold against some, which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh. <sup>3</sup>For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: <sup>4</sup>[For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds (Arguments and reasonings by which a disputant endeavors to fortify his opinion and defend it against his opponent;] <sup>5</sup>Casting down (take down with the use of force) imaginations (thought, reasoning), and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ*
- A. Imaginations. thoughts. reasonings. things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God are to be cast down-Thoughts are to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ
  - B. In preaching we bring down wrong thinking-2Co10:4-PH-Our battle is to bring down every deceptive fantasy and every imposing defense that men erect against the truth knowledge of God. We fight to capture every thought until it acknowledges the authority of Christ
  - C. In our own lives we cast down thoughts-Some accused him of walking in the flesh and he said we live like this-*2Co10:4-VO*-The weapons of the war we're fighting are not of this world but are powered by God and effective at tearing down the strongholds erected against His truth. <sup>5</sup>We are demolishing arguments and ideas, every high-and-mighty philosophy that pits itself against the knowledge of the one true God. We are taking prisoners of every thought, every emotion, and subduing them into obedience to the Anointed One
  - D. EVERY high thing. EVERY thought-We are to cast down every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bring every thought into captivity – How are you doing with every thought?
  - E. To cast down a wrong thought is to take it down wrong by use of force-Wrong thoughts stubborn, rebellious, incessant and it's because they are from the enemy and therefore they must be taken down with force
  - F. You get a sense of the weightiness of this. by the severity of the language-Warfare, every thought, take down by force

### III. We are to guard our minds-*Pr4:20*-My son, attend (give attention) to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. <sup>21</sup>Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. <sup>22</sup>For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. <sup>23</sup>Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

- A. These verses talk about what we do with our minds. with what we focus on-God says focus on my words
- B. Heart-Heart; also used (figuratively) very widely for the feelings, the will and even the intellect (mind); likewise the center of anything; BDB-Inner man, mind, will, heart, understanding; A.Heb-Seat of thought and emotion, the mind
- C. We are to guard our minds above all that we guard-Pr4:23-CEB-More than anything you guard, protect your mind, for life flows from it; *CJB*-Above everything else; *DARB*-Keep your heart more than anything that is guarded; *GW*-Guard your heart more than anything else; *DRA*-With all watchfulness, keep your heart; *KJ*-With all diligence (care, heedfulness-attention, circumspection)

1. We need to pay attention to what we are thinking on-Pay attention to what you're letting into your mind
  2. The scriptures place a higher priority on certain things because this issue affects multiple other things
  3. We have not taken this seriously enough-You can hear something so much you become desensitized to it
- D. Guard your mind against what?-Against anything that exalts itself against what God says in His Word
1. Every mind needs a bouncer at the door-Here's the list-**Ph4:8**-*Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think (consider) on these things*