

## ***Take all Thoughts Captive:***

Jeremiah 6:18~21 Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even **the fruit of their thoughts**, because **they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it**. To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me. Therefore thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will lay **stumblingblocks** before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall upon them; the neighbour and his friend shall perish.

*The fruit of your thoughts is produced from your belief. Evil thoughts produce bad fruit. Good thoughts according to truth produce righteousness. Fruit is the natural produce of the plant.*

*As one can't get lemons from an olive tree, one can't obtain righteous behavior from a wicked heart. What matters is the source from which the fruit comes from. The fruit will always exhibit what is found in its source. In Genesis 6, notice what Yah observed when the imaginations of men are turned toward wickedness, it produced spiritual death.*

Genesis 6:1~7 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown. And GOD saw that the **wickedness of man** was great in the earth, and that **every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually**. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth (*to be regretful*) me that I have made them.

*Note that the source of the evil originates in the heart of man, "the voice from within," which is the produce of our actions. Your fruit speaks who you really are. Paul understood this concept perfectly, when he reminded us that the fruit of the Spirit stands in contrast to the harvest of disobedience as stated in Galatians, Chapter 5.*

Galatians 5:13~26 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; **only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh**, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh**: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. (*Meaning: you are living the law*). Now the works of the flesh (*your fruit*) are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the (*righteous*) **fruits of the Spirit** (*according to the law*) is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

***Your actions...shout who you are!*** *Whatever spirit leads us becomes the source producing our fruit. There are two paths to walk: The first path continues downward from where we were called, a life led by our*

*spirit of self desire, self interest, self preservation dominated by the will of the flesh with the focus on me, myself and I...crowning a true tri-une deity.*

*The second path choice lays out a life in which we were called to follow, a life of out going concern for others, a life of giving to Yah and to man accordingly. One life path will bear fruit of selfishness, the preoccupation with the love of self, while the other path choice produces fruits of righteousness according to Yah's words: outgoing love given freely to others.*

*The contents of our heart breeds our **thoughts**, our capacity to think or reason that leads us in our walk. Our **thoughts** are affected by our emotions and physical sensations contained in feelings as they surface. At times our feelings rule over our thoughts, as shown in fits of rage. Other times they are in agreement with each other. When feelings are buffered by our thoughts according to some higher principle, self is controlled by that standard or code of conduct, which in turn becomes one's true heart desire.*

*Without a standard or code to judge against, feelings would come to dominate our lives in chaos. We must therefore have a standard to judge our thoughts, a moral standard as set in the law of the land and a spiritual standard, as set forth in Yah's laws.*

*An example of laws of the land would be driving laws governing the operation of vehicles for our safety. Yah's laws do the same by checking our thoughts against His truth, His righteous laws. The contents of our heart should always be checked by Yah's laws, as with laws of the land that govern our lives. Yah says to trust in Him with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding Proverb 3:5.*

Jeremiah 6:19 Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the **fruit of their thoughts**, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

**Thought** #04284. machashabah; intention, plan (whether bad - a plot; or good - advice), cunning work, curious work, device, a seed, imagination, invented, means, purpose.

*Thoughts cover all kinds of mental acts from thinking including conceiving, reckoning and esteeming to considering, planning, meditating and challenging. Yah's law acts as a fence shielding us from evil desires that will consume our house from those spiritual forces that will build it up. Thus there is a reason for this fence. Left unchecked, self desire will overpower any moral state. Jeremiah declared the people no longer regard the fence, **the laws of Yah**; therefore they are led away by their evil thoughts. Thoughts without boundaries lead to destructive consequences.*

James 1: 12~15 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation (*evil thoughts*): for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away **of his own lust**, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

*The fence that protects me from my twisted thoughts and feelings is the laws of Yah. The reason that our thoughts become perverted is our rejection of Yah's direction. We disregard the fence, no longer protected from ourselves and the evil in which we follow. As a result, we reap the **fruit of our thoughts** by producing bad fruit to the point of sinning against Yah.*

1Corinthians 3:16~20 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. Let no man **deceive himself**. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written,

He taketh the wise in their own craftiness. And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

*Mental activity with its consequences creates the law of cause and effect. In other words, what I think brings about real, tangible events. For example, when I refuse to listen to Yah's laws, when I reject His instructions for righteous character, dreadful things occur in my life. The Bible teaches that we can become what we think. Without the protective fence of the law, our thinking will lead us astray leading straight to destruction. In living outside the law, we walk on an open road without protection, without boundaries, where any thoughts can lead us astray.*

Proverbs 5:21~23 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and He watches all his paths. **His own iniquities** shall take the wicked **himself**, and he shall be held with the cords of **his sin**. He shall die **without instruction**; and in the greatness of **his folly** he shall go astray. (MKJV)

Proverbs 18:1~3 He that separates himself seeks his **own desire**; he breaks out against all sound wisdom. **A fool has no delight in understanding**, but only that **his heart may lay itself bare**. (*The thoughts of the heart*) When the wicked comes, scorn also comes, and with shame comes reproach. (MKJV)

*Maturity resembles building a structured with one course of bricks at a time. The foundation must be firm and straight before it can support the next course of bricks. Without the foundation of the Old Testament, the entire New Testament collapses. Thus we build maturity by being responsible by applying His teaching to our lives that involves not only knowing what is right, but much more importantly in doing what is right. Only then is wisdom achieved.*

### **Take All Thoughts Captive:**

2 Corinthians 10:1~6 Now I Paul myself beseech you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, who in presence am base among you, but being absent am bold toward you: 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. For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) **Casting down imaginations**, and every high thing that **exalteth itself** against the knowledge of God, and **bringing into captivity every thought** to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when **your obedience** is fulfilled.

*Paul instructs us to, "Take all thoughts captive." What does this imply, captive? Captive means; to be in prison, lock up, confine, incarcerate, to suppress, to quench these evil desires. Not to let them out to become alive but to put them away, extinguish them. For a little leaven, leavens the whole loaf, as does sin left unchecked.*

*The great advantage about becoming mature lies in gaining wisdom: the application of knowledge and understanding. To come to the realization I can, and have a duty to think for myself as I'm led by His Spirit. Wisdom provides the opportunity to take all views into reflection prior to acceptance by being screened, checked by the fence of His laws. Now I need not be forced to accept an idea and risk 'contaminating' myself before searching and proving its accuracy. I have been given the written words of Yah and His Holy Spirit to guide me to prove all things according to His laws...His righteous character written for my admonishment.*

*I'm to cast down imaginations of self grandeur, of self-desire that exalts self. I am to bring into **captivity** every thought as one being called for a special purpose: to check myself against every thought contrary to Yah's instructions, to come into obedience to Yah's truth, revenging the evil leading me astray.*

*Remember scripture says, "Vengeance is the Lord's" on all who refuse to repent. Yet revenging our own evil is the responsibility of self as stated, "judge yourself before you are judged."*

*I was called to come out of the world, not to play in it. Satan has deceived many as stressed in Greek philosophy that knowing truth, defined as; a higher spirituality through knowledge as being humankind's supreme goal in living a righteous life. But it's not in the knowing that makes one righteous in Yah's sight. It is in the doing...**the action of one's beliefs** that set one apart from Satan's world. One achieves righteousness by applying Yah's laws in their life, living the life that one was called to live, to ultimately become a king and priest in the image of Yahshua.*

Psalms 119:105 **Thy word is a lamp** unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:145~152 I cried with my whole heart; hear me, O LORD: **I will keep thy statutes**. I cried unto thee; save me, **and I shall keep thy testimonies**. I prevented (*Meaning; to anticipate*) the dawning of the morning, and cried: **I hoped in thy word**. Mine eyes prevent (*precede, to hasten*) the night watches, **that I might meditate in thy word**. Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken (*nourish*) me according to thy **judgment**. They draw nigh that **follow after mischief**: they are far from **thy law**. Thou art near, O LORD; and **all thy commandments are truth**. Concerning thy testimonies, **I have known of old that thou hast founded them ...for ever**.

*The final frontier in the fight against evil, is gaining control of one's mind. For he that controls his mind controls his destiny. That is why Satan intensely desires to influence you in the **ways of the flesh, self-desire**, for they are tools as sweet as candy that leads one astray to the point where Satan dominates you. We must come to understand where sin originates and how to control it.*

Matthew 7:13~20 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and **few there be that find it**. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. **Ye shall know them by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth **good fruit**; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth **evil fruit**. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them**.

*Yahshua instructs that; "**sin originates** from those things which proceed out of the mouth that in turn have come forth **from the heart** for they defile the person. For out of the heart proceed **evil thoughts leading to murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies**. These are the things which defile a person," **the thoughts of the heart** Mt 15:16~20.*

Genesis 4:3~7 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? **If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted?** and if thou doest not well, **sin lieth at the door**. And unto thee shall be his desire, and **thou shalt rule over him**.

*Without the boundaries of Yah's laws to check our thoughts, sin will have its way with us. Satan does not care at what point you fail to follow Yah's laws. For beyond that fateful point, one is already following Satan and is showing by actions that one is his child of disobedience.*

Proverbs 3:1~6 My son, forget not my law; but let **thine heart keep my commandments**: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the **table of thine heart**: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD **with all thine heart**; and lean not unto thine **own understanding**. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 4:20~23 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; **keep them in the midst of thine heart**. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. **Keep thy heart with all diligence**; for out of it are the **issues of life**.

*His commandments contained in His laws is; the code upon which to live. We are to hold them in our hearts from where our thoughts originate. We are told how to guard our hearts from evil by constantly checking our thoughts against His truth. But first we must know what that truth is.*

Deuteronomy 6: 4~9 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine **heart**, and with all thy **soul**, and with all thy **might**. And these words, which I command thee this day, **shall be in thine heart**: (as a fence) And thou shalt **teach them** diligently unto thy children, and shalt **talk of them** when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt **bind them** for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt **write them** upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

*The life that we have been called to is one of becoming like Christ. Christ gave up His divinity of being the God of the Old Testament to become a human being to show us how to walk (live life) perfectly. As a human, Yahshua lived, focused and functioned as a servant outside of Himself. His concern was the success of others to gain life.*

*If I am to be like Him, I must take on this same character of not living for myself within my own world. A fundamental part of what "made in the likeness of Yah" means; **can only be found in association with another**. One of the foremost requirements to live as Christ lived is to accept the responsibility for the caring of others, not just in thought, but in action. Taking care of self, being responsible for one's actions is not enough. Loving my neighbor as myself is living Christ's character, being in His likeness.*

*Greek philosophy places enormous emphasis on care of the self. In its worst form, this philosophy promotes the idea that taking care of me, myself and I is the highest form of charity. This thinking exalts the idea that the world should and must revolve around me to make my life of significant worth. And unless I nourish myself **first and foremost**, I will be unfit to provide for others.*

*But from the very beginning, the Hebrew perspective presents a different interpretive picture. The Hebrew language suggests that the essence of who I am is predicated upon the degree of how responsible I am **for others...not to others**. My charity is not measured by how "**self sufficient**" I am...but rather by how **much I serve another for their benefit**.*

*Having a good day does not mean that everything went well in my life. A good day is when I have made someone else life an easier path to walk.*

*In summary, to be as Christ was...is to be as He is...**"A Servant."***

*It is time for all of us to check our actions relative to Yahshua's perfect character of charity, according to His laws.*

*What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us;  
What we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.*

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