

HIS CHURCH LONDON

# FREEDOM

THE MIND

LECTURE 3

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## INTRODUCTION

1. We all have the capacity to love God with ALL OUR MIND

### **Mark 12:30 (NIV)**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

2. The mind however is the place of a great battlefield

### **2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)**

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

3. It is our responsibility to renew our mind and bring every thought into obedience to Christ

### **Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

“Do not conform 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.”

## DAVID & GOLIATH

### **1 Samuel 17 (NIV)**

4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span

8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me.



11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. 23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. 24 Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.

Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. 49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

- Goliath made intimidating threats against the nation of Israel
- The nation of Israel saw and heard Goliath and his threats, this produced terror, anxiety and discouragement
- David saw and heard the same threats of Goliath, this produced faith, courage and trust in God's ability to save the nation!



Let's consider the following:

## DAVID GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR MIND

A free mind  
A transformed mind  
A renewed mind  
A victorious mind

## THE RANKS OF ISRAEL DEVIL'S PLAN FOR OUR MIND

A mind in bondage  
An oppressed mind  
An unrenewed mind  
A defeated mindset

David had won the victory before he even went to battle with Goliath, why? Because his mind was free. It was free because it was 100% focused on God and WHO HE WAS, circumstance did not move him, he knew the victory belonged to the Lord!

The ranks of Israel didn't even bother to attack Goliath; instead they allowed his ongoing threats to intimidate and discourage them. As a result, they were defeated in their mind-sets and allowed the enemy to keep them in bondage and under his oppression.

## THE ENEMYS APPROACH

The enemy's approach is always to cause us to question God character. Our unrenewed mind combined with passivity of the mind results in deception of the mind. Consider Adam & Even – did God really say?

### **Genesis 3:1-5 (NIV)**

“Now the serpent was craftier than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”



3 characteristics of evil spirits observed in Genesis 3:

- 1.Their thoughts always invade from the outside
- 2.Their thoughts force, push, pressure man to take action immediately
- 3.Their thoughts confuse and paralyse man's mind so that you can no longer think clearly

3 truths regarding our minds:

- 1.The mind is the battlefield | it is vulnerable to oppression from the enemy
- 2.The mind is the receiver – we need to select what we see and hear
- 3.Until we have victory in the mind, we won't have victory in our spiritual walk

## A UNRENEWED MIND

### **Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

“Do not conform 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.”

- Our minds are not automatically renewed at salvation
- Romans teaches us not to be conformed to the pattern of this world, why, because we are conformed to the pattern of this world
- Our lives are transformed as our minds are renewed
- So how do we renew our minds?
- We do this through exposing error, receiving truth, and repenting where necessary



## ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA

- They were part of the early church
- To this point the early church was thriving!
- They were having rapid growth, healings, miracles, no needy among them – The Holy Spirit was among them!
- AND THEN Ananias and Sapphira happened, the first recorded sin in the early church...

### **Acts 5:1-10 (NIV)**

5 Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 2 With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet.

3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied just to human beings but to God."

5 When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. 6 Then some young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

7 About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

8 Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?"

"Yes," she said, "that is the price."

9 Peter said to her, "How could you conspire to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also."

10 At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband.



Members of the early church

## RENEWED MIND

Enlightened  
Soft  
No compromise  
Approving  
The Truth is all that mattered  
Spiritual

Ananias and Sapphira

## UNRENEWED MIND

Darkened  
Hardened  
Indulgent  
Hostile  
Full of lies and deception  
Carnal

Many of us, like Ananias and Sapphira, have unrenewed minds, and because of this the enemy has been able to build up strongholds in our mind.

He has done this through:

- Speculation – the constant what if questions that often never come to pass
- Unbelief and fears – unbelief is a sin and the fears are often unfounded
- Perverse thoughts – our unclean thoughts bind and defeat us through shame

Bondage in the mind occurs in the minds when people have been exposed to the following: the occult, cults, hypnosis, pornography addiction, drug addiction, mind control techniques. This course will equip us on getting free!

There are three ways the enemy has access into our minds;

- The unrenewed mind
- The deceived mind
- The passive mind

This lecture has focused on the unrenewed mind, next lecture we shall focus on the deceived and passive mind.