



# Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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## THOUGHT TESTING

Thought determines the believer's life, it has powerful effect on the believer's success or failure in the Christian life, that is why, it is considered a major momentum test. In all stages of the Christian life the believer will face the pressure of thought conflicts in his soul. Human viewpoint will conflict with divine viewpoint. False concepts will challenge Bible doctrine.

Arrogance will intrude upon humility. Expedients of all kinds will compete with the protocol plan of God, and fear will paralyze reason. There are essentially private conflicts, which the believer must resolve in his own soul. Anxiety, perplexity, confusions, dilemmas, and unanswered questions motivate the positive volition believer to apply the resources of Bible doctrine he has learned. Concentration on doctrine accelerates his spiritual growth.

Thought testing may exist when circumstances are overly prosperous and tranquil. A person is not always he appears to be on the surface; the real person is the thought content of his soul (Proverbs 23:7). The believer is what he thinks; therefore a thought can make or break him, depending on the nature of the thought. If his thought is contrary to Bible doctrine, he is distracted from his true destiny in life. His mental attitude toward life is the function of his thinking, the composite of all he knows and believes.

Rational thinking is the essential human activity that distinguishes man from animal thought. The mentality of the soul is the battlefield of the angelic conflict. When the believer thinks evil, he is evil. He resides in Satan's cosmic system. From evil thinking comes evil motivation; from evil motivation, evil actions (Matthew 9:4).

The thinking that is consistent with the truth of Bible doctrine has massive effects for good. For example, salvation itself is appropriated by a right thought of non-meritorious positive volition toward the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Mankind's great enemy is a thought called arrogance. Arrogance can inflate or deflate man's opinion of himself. He thinks he is better or worse than he actually is. Both self-exaltation and self-condemnation distort and deny reality, which is the realm in which God's plan is effective. God's grace deals with us as we are, but a self-centered believer who does not live in objective reality will never use God's grace provisions to advance in the protocol plan (Galatians 6:3).

Arrogance is a person who thinks more of himself than he has a right to think. Arrogance is illusion and unreality. An arrogant person is depriving himself of his greatest advantage that comes with the fulfillment of God's plan for his life (Romans 12:3).

The divine mandate that the believer must obey in order to consistently pass thought testing are summed up in this verse:

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect”.

The renewing of your mind (the radical renovation of your thought pattern) is accomplished by continuous intake of Bible doctrine as the believer’s first priority. The good, acceptable and perfect refers to the protocol plan of God executed inside the divine sphere where the believer can make good and right decisions on the basis of Bible doctrine in his soul.