



# Berean Christian Fellowship

## DEVOTIONAL 113.0

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### A Mind Stayed on God's Mind - P5

**“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You” (Isaiah 26:3 ESV).**

Since sinful man *“did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind”* (Rom. 1:28). Believers have been saved from this depraved mind, for we have been given *“the mind of Christ”* (1 Cor. 2:16), freely receiving the thoughts of God through His Spirit in us!

Even so, we struggle with sin because our fleshly minds are so easily swayed by the thoughts of the mind of satan! This was perfectly illustrated when Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was. *“Simon Peter replied, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven’”* (Matt. 16:16-17). God had revealed His mind to Peter (before the Holy Spirit was given to all Believers). Then without warning, Peter rebuked Jesus when He was sharing how He would suffer, die, and rise again. Jesus *“turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.’”* (Matt. 16:22-23). How easily satan inspired Peter's thoughts, appealing to the flesh!

In a similar way, the thoughts of the god of this world, have always intruded into the minds of Believers, tempting them to sin in thought and deed. In these Last Days, our minds are continually set upon with images and words that try to inspire thoughts of attraction, attention, and devotion to the world's ways. Like never before, through the world's internet, TVs, advertisements, movies, books, etc, we are incessantly tugged and pushed by

thousands of temptations, thoughts, persecutions, and beliefs that stream into our minds trying to trip and snare us. As satan tempted Jesus after the Holy Spirit descended on Him, showing Him all *“the kingdoms of the world and their glory”* (Matt. 4:8b) *“in a moment in time”* (Luke 4:5b), so also the devil shows us all their glory through the world's Media, tempting us in the same way, saying, *“all these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me [lit. prostrate yourself]”* (Matt. 4:9). Just as he did with Jesus, he appeals to our minds: *“submit to my ways to discover your potential, get the most out of life, get what you deserve, make your dreams come true,”* etc. But everything his world offers comes at the price of giving ourselves to it in prostration—*“the act of submitting, usually surrendering power to another”* (The Free Dictionary), instead of to God. In this way, he seeks to undermine the work and fruit that the Father has for His Children to bear as they mature for their eternal inheritance.

We know the visions of the glory of the world are *“fleeting pleasures of sin”* (Heb. 11:25b) destined for destruction, yet they set into our minds everywhere we look today. How can we stand strong when our fleshly minds are so weak to these thoughts? Stay your mind on God's mind in His Word, for then *“the Word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”* (Rom. 10:8), and draw near to His Spirit in you, for *“the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose”* (Rom. 8:26-28). Even so, Amen.

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