Repent:

Renew Your Mind And Renew Your Attitude

Chapter 3

In the last chapter we were discussing about being "Born Again". Why does God make such a big deal about being "Born Again"? Why does He not just say "Saved"? What is so important about being "Born Again"?

So as I was praying and meditating on this, the Holy Spirit started to explain. He asked, "What do you know and understand soon after you are born?" I replied nothing. He continued, "How did you know how to eat, how do drink, how to walk and how to talk?" I answered, "I learned it from my parents and by watching other people."

"Exactly." He said. Then he continued, "So it is when you are saved. You must learn now to walk, how to talk, how to eat, and how to drink as a new Christian—"Born Again" person how has just entered into God's Spiritual world, known as the Kingdom of God."

He finally said, "That is why you must be "Born Again". Because what you learned after you were born into the physical world with your old sinful spirit were the ways of the world, the world that is controlled by the devil. What you learned from him you cannot use in the Kingdom of God. His way is the way of evil, and I will not have evil in My Kingdom.

1JN 5:18 "We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. [19] We know that we are children of God, **and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.** [20] We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true. And we are in Him who is true--even in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life."

You must put off everything that you learned from that evil world and learn everything again, but the God's Spirit world and from the Kingdom of God. Because a new baby knows nothing of his father and the baby knows nothing of the Kingdom of God. So to bring what you learned from the evil world into the Kingdom of God does not work. They are at odds with one another, you must choose which one you will live by. You cannot live like you did after you enter into the Kingdom of God. You must be "Born Again", and you must learn the ways of the Kingdom of God—for you were "Born Again" into the Kingdom of God, you must live in the ways of the Kingdom of God."

Remember:

- JN 3:3 "In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is "Born Again". "
- JN 3:4 ""How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"
- JN 3:5 "Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. [6] Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. [7] You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be "Born Again".' [8] The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.""

To be "Born Again" is a good way to visualize and understand what He is trying to get us to understand because the whole point of God is that He requires all of His Children to be pure and holy like Him. He will not live with evil. He will not have evil in the Kingdom of God. So all traces of evil must be removed from us before we can enter into the Kingdom of God.

1PE 1:13 "Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. [14] As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. [15] But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; [16] for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy.""

NOTE: This is the whole point of everything that the New Testament is about, preparing for entering into Heaven with God. Only the holy, pure children of God can enter. This is not just for after you die, it is for while you are alive now too. You cannot be with God now if you still have evil in you. You cannot really connect with God to pray, meditate, worship or praise Him if you still have evil in you.

I guess now it a good time to explain one important thing: the meaning of evil. Evil simply means "Not Godly". It does not mean that you are demon possessed, although it can. How are we evil, all the time that we are disobedient.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, *the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.* [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its

desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

This scripture says that everyone who is disobedient can have an evil spirit working in them. Disobedient Children are children who sin. Sin means that you are being evil.

Remember:

LK 13:20 "Again He asked, "What shall I compare the Kingdom of God to? [21] It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough."

LK 13:22 "Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as He made His way to Jerusalem. [23] Someone asked Him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, [24] "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. [25] Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But He will answer, `I don't know you or where you come from."

LK 13:26 ""Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

LK 13:27 "But He will reply, `I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!"

LK 13:28 "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. [29] People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the Kingdom of God. [30] Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

Only those who have are pure in spirit, in heart, in mind and in soul will enter into the Kingdom of God. So now the question is how do you do this? Well the first part is as He said, "You must be "Born Again"." Now to the hard part, renewing your mind, heart and your very soul. For you are "Born Again" from your asking for "Forgiveness", through your faith; now you work with God to purify your mind, your heart and your soul through "Repentance"—To change your mind and attitudes.

EPH 4:20 "You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. [21] Surely you heard of Him and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. [22] You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; [23] to be made new in the attitude of your minds; [24] and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

2CO 5:16 "So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. [17] **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!** [18] All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: [19] that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

RO 12:1 "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. [2] **Do not conform any longer 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."

I studied and prayed and sought God's guidance for this since I first became a Christian. I wanted to know why He wanted us to do this. What was so important that He was pushing this, and then I read Ephesians again and He hit me with the revelation as to why.

EPH 2:1 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, [2] in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. [3] All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. [4] But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, [5] made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. [6] And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, [7] in order that

in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. [8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

It says that you too were dead because of following the ways of the world, and because of this, we allowed evil spirits into us who are pushing, enticing, nagging, tricking, driving and deceiving us to gratify our ungodly cravings, our ungodly selfish desires and our ungodly thoughts and ungodly attitudes. But then I said to God, surely this can no longer happen to us now that we are "Born Again". He said to look closer—the scripture says that the evil spirits will control not only those who are not "Born Again", but they will control all of those who are **disobedient**—even "Born Again" Christians who are disobedient can be controlled by the ruler of the kingdom of the air—namely the devil and his demons.

So I asked how do I prevent this from happening to me? He reminded me of this scripture.

MT 9:16 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. [17] **Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins.** If they do, the skins will burst, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. **No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.**"

He said that now that you are "Born Again", you are a new creature, and as such, you are a new wine, which requires a new wine skin. You cannot mix good and evil, you must remove one and live with the other. So you must remove the old wine skin and that which is in it and replace it with a Godly new wine skin to hold the new wine. But the new wine skin is empty, so you must fill it with the ways, thoughts, desires, and attitudes of the Kingdom of God.

So this then requires us to remove the old nature of the world and its teachings and attitudes, and replace it with the new nature and attitudes of God and His teachings of the Kingdom of God.

EPH 4:17 "So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their **thinking**. [18] **They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.** [19] Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more."

EPH 4:20 "You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. [21] Surely you heard of Him and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. [22] You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; [23] to be made <u>new in the attitude of your minds</u>; [24] <u>and to put on the new self</u>, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness."

EPH 4:25 "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. [26] "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, [27] and do not give the devil a foothold (an opportunity). [28] He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need."

EPH 4:29 "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. [30] **And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption**. [31] Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. [32] Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

This is the secret to living with God: 1 Having the mind of Christ; 2. To be with Him; and 3 not to be disobedient and run under His wrath. To do this, you must have the Mind of Christ and the right Godly attitude with which you will be able to be sincere, pure and holy.

Where do we start? How do we do this? Well you already started by using your faith, and by being "Born Again". Now you have a friend on your side—your Godly spirit, the Spirit of His Son, so that you can be His. So that the next step to obtaining this is to repent, that is to change your mind and your heart and your attitude.

What is repent?

To repent is to be willing to change: change your attitude and change the spirit by which you live. People's actions and motives work hand-in-hand together because of your attitude—the spirit within you--controls your motives and your motives control your actions.

AC 8:18 "When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money [19] and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.""

AC 8:20 "Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! [21] You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. [22] **Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord.** Perhaps He will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. [23] For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin.""

AC 8:24 "Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me.""

REV 9:20 "The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues **still did not repent of the work of their hands**; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and woodidols that cannot see or hear or walk. [21] Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts."

As you see, attitude is very important, for your motives will always follow your attitudes.

Largely, if your attitude is for worldly things then your motive will be to please the world, and to do worldly things—be disobedient. So if your attitude is for the flesh, then your motive will be to do things of the flesh; but if you attitude is to crucify the flesh on the cross and follow Jesus, then the motive will be pure and holy and of the things of God.

If the attitude is to love God, then your motives will be to obey His commands. And the if your desire is to love God, then you will only think of things to please Him. If the attitude is to please God, then the motive will be to follow the ways of the Kingdom of God.

Dictionary Definition of Attitude and Motive

at·ti·tude Pronunciation Key (at 1-tood, -tyood)

n.

1. A position of the body or manner of carrying oneself: *stood in a graceful attitude*. See Synonyms at posture.

2.

- a. A state of mind or a feeling; disposition: *had a positive attitude about work*.
- b. An arrogant or hostile state of mind or disposition.
- 3. The orientation of an aircraft's axes relative to a reference line or plane, such as the horizon.
- 4. The orientation of a spacecraft relative to its direction of motion.
- 5. A position similar to an arabesque in which a ballet dancer stands on one leg with the other raised either in front or in back and bent at the knee.

attitude

n 1: a complex mental state involving beliefs and feelings and values and dispositions to act in certain ways; "he had the attitude that work was fun" [syn: mental attitude] 2: position or arrangement of the body and its limbs; "he assumed an attitude of surrender" [syn: position, posture] 3: a theatrical pose created for effect; "the actor struck just the right attitude" 4: position of aircraft or spacecraft relative to a frame of reference (the horizon or direction of motion)

Dictionary Definition of Motive



n.

- 1. An emotion, desire, physiological need, or similar impulse that acts as an incitement to action.
- 2. (motiv, motiv) A motif in art, literature, or music.

adj.

- 1. Causing or able to cause motion: *motive power*.
- 2. Impelling to action: *motive pleas*.
- 3. Of or constituting an incitement to action.

motive

adj 1: causing or able to cause motion; "a motive force"; "motive power"; "motor energy" [syn: motive(a), motor] 2: impelling to action; "it may well be that ethical language has primarily a motivative function"- Arthur Pap; "motive pleas"; "motivating arguments" [syn: motivative(a), motive(a), motivating] n 1: the psychological feature that arouses an organism to action toward a desired goal; the reason for the action; that which gives purpose and direction to behavior; "we did not understand his motivation"; "he acted with the best of motives" [syn: motivation, need] 2: a theme that is elaborated on in a piece of music [syn: motif].

Faith: The Secret to Repentance

Another secret of the Kingdom of God is that to repent requires faith. We talked about Faith many times. Faith is the key that makes the Kingdom of God work. Without faith nothing works. We must have faith in order to be obedient to God because without it everything is useless. It is by faith that you enter into the Kingdom of God. If you do not have faith, then you are removed from the Kingdom of God.

JAS 2:14 "What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? [15] Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to him,

"Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? [17] In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."

JAS 2:18" But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. [19] You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder."

JAS 2:20 "You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? [21] Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? [22] You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. [23] And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. [24] You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone."

JAS 2:25 "In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? [26] As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."

As we have mentioned many times that faith without works is dead. God is not going to judge you on your belief alone but **by what you did** based on your belief—or on your faith, which includes actions as well as belief.

RO 2:5 "But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when His righteous judgment will be revealed. [6] **God "will give to each person according to what he has done."** [7] To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, He will give eternal life. [8] But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. [9] There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile; [10] but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. [11] For God does not show favoritism."

So in the end, what is important is your actions or lack there of.

Scriptures: Results of Actions

MT 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a

shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] He will put the sheep on His right and the goats on His left."

- MT 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. [35] For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, [36] I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick and you looked after Me, I was in prison and you came to visit Me.'
- MT 25:37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? [38] When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? [39] When did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You?'
- MT 25:40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.'
- MT 25:41 "Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. [42] For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not invite Me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after Me.'
- MT 25:44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'
- MT 25:45 "He will reply, `I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.'"
- MT 25:46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."
- JAS 1:26 "If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. [27] Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."
- MT 7:15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. [16] By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? [17] Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. [18] A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. [19]

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. [20] Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them."

MT 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, `Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. [22] Many will say to Me on that day, `Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' [23] Then I will tell them plainly, `I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!'"

MT 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. [25] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. [26] But everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. [27] The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Above it says, "Only those who do the will of My Father in Heaven will be saved". Doing things, just to do them because you think that is what God wants or else you will go to Hell, will not do—as you see in this parable of Jesus.

They did not have the right attitude. Their attitude was one of selfishness—self-preservation, not obedience as in John 14. But, the right attitude is to do the Will of God not because you **have to** but because you **want to willingly**. Then your motives will be pure and so will your actions.

So it is what you do with the right attitude that is what God cares the most for.

JAS 4:1 "What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come **from your desires** (your attitudes) that battle within you? [2] You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. [3] When you ask, you do not receive, **because you ask with wrong motives**, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

JAS 4:4 "You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. [5] Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit He caused to live in us envies intensely? [6] But He gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud (the haughty) but gives grace to the humble (minded).""

And Peter puts it this way:

1PE 5:1 "To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: [2] Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers--not because you must, **but because you are willing, as God wants you to be**; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; [3] not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. [4] And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

1PE 5:5 "Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud (the haughty) but gives grace to the humble (minded)."

1PE 5:6 "Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. [7] Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

1PE 5:8 "Be self-controlled and alert. <u>Your enemy the devil prowls</u> <u>around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.</u> [9] Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings."

1PE 5:10 "And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. [11] To Him be the power for ever and ever. Amen."

As we see here that quarrels and fighting are based on their motives. What is causing these quarrels? The wrong attitude maybe?

JAS 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. [8] Come near to God and He will come near to you. **Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded**. [9] Grieve, mourn and wail. *Change your* laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10] **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."**

So what is to "wash your hands and purify your hearts"? It is not repenting in changing your mind to follow and be obedient to God and by repenting your attitude to align it with God's. Only you can do that not God. It is your mind and your attitude

(heart) and not His. He can and will help you, but you must be willing to do it. This is carrying your cross daily.

MT 10:37 "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; [38] and **anyone who does not take his cross and follow Me** is not worthy of Me. [39] <u>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."</u>

And

MT 16:24 "Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. [25] For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will find it. [26] What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? [27] For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with His angels, and then He will reward each person according to what he has done. [28] I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

Next, what is to be Humble? Is it not living with a humble attitude and a having a humble attitude toward God? Being humble is the opposite to being prideful or haughty—distain fully proud, or in our terms, "I am not good, your are bad". Haughty is the "put down" attitude where you do not necessarily look up as being good, but that people are worse then you. This lifts you up, so it is being prideful. God asks us to be humble out of obedience to God. It is allowing the humility of the Holy Spirit to humble you before God. This allows you to see people as God sees them, for He sees them as His children but being controlled by the evil one—Eph 2--, like in Pinocchio controlled by the puppet master—but in this case the puppet master is the devil.

He says a few things as to how to repent.

PHP 3:7 "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. [8] What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the **surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ [9] and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that *which is through faith in Christ*-the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. [10] I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in his death, [11] and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."

- PHP 3:12 "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, <u>but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.</u> [13] Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. **But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,** [14] I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."
- PHP 3:15 "All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. [16] Only let us live up to what we have already attained."
- PHP 3:17 "Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. [18] For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. [19] Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. [20] But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, [21] who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body."

Here is an example of how to renew your mind and attitudes.

PHP 4:4 "<u>Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!</u>
[5] Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. [6] **Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.** [7] And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts (attitudes) and your minds in Christ Jesus."

This one is hard, for it is requiring you to rejoice 24/7—always and to always put everything in prayer with thanksgiving.

- PHP 4:8 "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. [9] Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."
- PHP 4:10 "I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. [11] I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. [12] I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation,

whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. [13] *I* can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

- COL 3:12 "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, <u>clothe</u> yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. [13] Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. [14] And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."
- COL 3:15 "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. [16] Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. [17] And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Here are other requirements to have in your hearts 24/7.

- RO 13:8 "Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. [9] The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." [10] Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law."
- RO 13:11 "And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. [12] The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. [13] Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. [14] Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature."
- GAL 5:16 "So I say, live by the (Holy) Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. [17] For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. [18] But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law."

Repentance is a two-step process: 1. Forgiveness, and 2. Willing and wanting to change from evil.

- MT 6:14 "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. [15] But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."
- MT 18:19 "Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven. [20] For where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them."
- MT 18:21 "Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?""
- MT 18:22 "Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times."
- MT 18:23 "Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven (God) is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. [24] As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. [25] Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt."
- MT 18:26 "The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' [27] The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go."
- MT 18:28 "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded."
- MT 18:29 "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back."
- MT 18:30 "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. [31] When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened."
- MT 18:32 "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. [33] Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' [34] In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed."
- MT 18:35 "This is how My heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

Power of Evil Spirits

So to repent is to ask God to forgive you for that specific sin, and then tell Him you are willing and wanting to change from that sin, and ask for His Help you change it. Then every time it occurs you try to not do it. However, to be honest, if the evil that is occurring in you also has an evil spirit supporting it, then without God's help, you will fail to change it.

Are you stronger then an evil spirit? Are you stronger then an Angel—for that is what an evil spirit is, a fallen angel. With this in mind, we need to continue to study and understand the Kingdom of God. When you do understand it, then you will know how to defeat these evil spirits and you will become pure and holy.

So now you know why you need to Repent, which is to change your attitudes and mind, next lets see what attitudes are and how they control us.

Here are some final scripture to meditate on.

EZE 18:30 "Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. **Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall**. [31] **Rid yourselves** of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel? [32] For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

JER 7:1 "This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2] "Stand at the gate of the LORD's house and there proclaim this message:

"'Hear the word of the LORD, all you people of Judah who come through these gates to worship the LORD. [3] This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: **Reform your ways and your actions**, and I will let you live in this place. [4] Do not trust in deceptive words and say, "This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD!" [5] **If you really change your ways and your actions and deal with each other justly**, [6] if you do not oppress the alien, the fatherless or the widow and do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow other gods to your own harm, [7] then I will let you live in this place, in the land I gave your forefathers for ever and ever. [8] But look, you are trusting in deceptive words that are worthless."

JER 7:9 " 'Will you steal and murder, commit adultery and perjury, burn incense to Baal and follow other gods you have not known, [10] and then come and stand before Me in this house, which bears My

Name, and say, "We are safe"--safe to do all these detestable things? [11] Has this house, which bears My Name, become a den of robbers to you? But I have been watching! Declares the LORD."

Conclusion

I know that it is easy to say these words. And I know that it is the hardest thing in the world to do is to put these words into action. You are fighting against evil spirits. They have been with you all of your life. They have been your friends. But now you know the truth, they are acting to be your friends so that they can kill you.

But do you have the power to remove them; to destroy them to enforce you will on them? No. But God promises not to leave you alone or desert you now that you have decided to follow Him.

He has a wonderful plan, all you have to do is to have faith in Him and follow His plan.

EPH 6:10 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. [11] Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. [12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly **realms.** [13] Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. [14] Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, [15] and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. [16] In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. [17] Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. [18] And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."

God knows that we do not fight against people but of the evil one who controls this world. So He has a plan to provide you with help. Keep reading the other volumes and chapters and find out.