



# STRAIGHT TALK

*“... between you and us a great gulf is fixed .... ” - Luke 16:26*

## THE GREAT GULF

### THE POWER OF THOUGHTS

The thoughts we think have tremendous power in charting the course of our lives. Where the mind goes, the man follows. Our lives are literally shaped by our thoughts.

Thought power is generally underappreciated. So it behooves us to think about our thoughts. Not to be redundant, but I want to stress that such an important and vital function that has great power to either save us or ruin us should not be regarded lightly. The undisciplined mind can run wild and lead to perceptions that are crazy. It can cause us to believe things that make no sense. It can get us in trouble.

6. Give no thought to the evil mind, nor admire his tastes.

7. **For as he thinks in his heart so is he.**

Prov. 23:6-7

4. For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but powerful to God to the destruction of strongholds (i.e., systems of false reasoning);

5. Throwing down **imaginings**, and every high **thought** that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and **yielding every thought** to submission of Christ;

2 Cor. 10:4-5

Our thoughts have power to hear God, and see (perceive) what He is showing us (Mtt. 13:16). Such great power cannot be left to mere mood or chance.

There is only **one source** we can trust to bless us and open our understanding. To deliver us from evil (worthless) thoughts and keep us square with Christ's thoughts. He is Yahweh's Communicator to guide us to truth. We must not take the bit in our teeth and run with untempered thoughts that may pop into our minds. Rather, we must ask "What does Jesus think about this?" The Great Communicator (The Logos) is our constant and essential guide, always

ready to help us with our thinking; to weigh our thoughts and keep our eyes focused.

When man chooses to circumvent Christ and be guided by his own lusts he is much like a child with no parent to guide him, to help him understand right and wrong. Without guidance from God's laws communicated to us by Christ we are like an explorer without a compass. That's why we need guidance from the Master of our hearts.

Jesus invites us to come to Him for help with our thoughts. The ability to think right is a gift from God. There is only one source that provides us with this living water.

7. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Matt. 7:7

6. ... I will give to him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7. He that overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Rev. 21:6-7

Within the minds and hearts of God's people is his Kingship. It is the venue that is the great battlefield in which the "war in heaven" is playing out. The thoughts (mental programming) coming at us from our enemies are their weapons against us. These are the deadly arrows being shot into the minds of our people to disable their minds and lead them astray. It is meant to be God's own venue where He reigns and guides his people. But when our minds are led by our enemies (those who hate us and want power over us) we are helpless against them.

But when we look to Christ to test our thoughts and keep our minds we are strong - invulnerable to their poisonous mental arrows. The mind of Christ is our only reliable and intended defense against brain dysfunction. By submitting our thoughts to Christ we are relying on the ONLY ONE

that we can trust to verify our thoughts. That is why we pray to Christ to guide us - to prepare our minds.

Your mind guides your heart. And our heart reveals what/who you worship. The man who worships himself (as Adam did) makes himself his own god – his own measure of all things (Gen. 3:5). When man is his own god he makes himself vulnerable to all manner of evil. He becomes clay without a potter. He has no one to shape him and filter his thoughts. He has only his own fleshly mind, and it is subject to the fleshly minds of godless teachers, pagan religions, and devils in high places (Eph. 6:12). That was the system that a serpent sold to Adam. The serpent system is also called a great dragon (Rev. 20:2) and the Beast System (Rev. 13:4). This is the source of those poisonous arrows (bad thoughts) that are shot at us to overpower our minds and control us.

We must be very careful who we let guide our minds. We must choose we will let guide us - who we worship.

*15. And if it seems evil to you to serve Yahweh, choose you this day whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh*

Joshua 24:15

If we don't give adequate attention to this we can find ourselves (our minds) lost and captured (enslaved) by the wicked in high places, in government, in disinformation institutions of education, in the news media, in antichrist churches, etc.. Make no mistake, it is their express job to capture our minds. To reorient our thinking so we cannot see through their lies. We must remember, above all, that our minds belong to God who designed them to critically evaluate and process the things we see and hear. Not to merely believe what the godless men tell us. And God has given us Christ to help us think correctly. It is with our minds and hearts that we worship the Father in truth - not the godless men and their institutions.

*2. And be not conformed to this age: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and complete will of God.*

Romans 12:2

## THE GREAT DIVIDE

Like it or not, you are not like most people. I have just described and defined the one venue where our minds are able to function correctly; where our minds are not sabotaged and disabled by devils (programmers). Those who not part of the herd are fundamentally different from the herd. If we don't trust the Beast System our minds will be able to work as they were created to work - like God intended. God created our minds to trust Him and Christ. If we trust (worship) men our minds won't be able to logically process truths about reality. Our minds will become crippled if we trust programmers (liars and devils). Our eyes and ears will

misdirect us. But if we choose to trust Christ our minds (our thoughts) will guide us into truth in spite of the devils who want to deceive us.

We who choose Christ's system are in a separate venue from those who trust the systems of men. This separates us from them. Our people (Christ's people) often wonder why it is so hard, seemingly impossible, to communicate with those who are in the other venue (trusting the Beast System). Why can't we share truth with them?

It is because there is a great mental gulf separating us from them. That great gulf is depicted in the parable of Lazarus And The Rich Man in Luke 16:19-31.

This parable compares the mental state of two men, a poor man who trusted God, and a rich man who trusted riches. Now remember, this is a parable so the people are not real. And it is not to say that only poor people can be faithful. Nor does it say that the rich cannot be faithful. But the point of this parable is to compare the life of two people being led by two different masters.

Jesus was using parables to teach his disciples about life and death (spiritual life and spiritual death). Earlier, in chapter 15, the publicans and the Pharisees were murmuring against Jesus when He ate with people the Jews called sinners. Keep in mind that the Jews' idea of sin was based upon a man's wealth. Wealthy men were judged automatically righteous - much the same as today. And poor men were judged sinners. It is man's value system. Not God's.

So while Jesus appeared to be teaching the Jews, He was actually teaching his disciples. The Jews could not hear Him. They hated Him.

In chapter 15 Jesus taught with an example of a shepherd who had lost track of one of his sheep. So the shepherd went to great lengths to find and save the one lost sheep. Jesus also used the example of a father with two sons. One son chose to take his inheritance and go his own way, ignoring the lessons he had learned from his father. That son soon squandered the portion his father had given him and he came to ruin. His life turned painful and miserable. Eventually he concluded that he should return to his father and repent of his ways. The father forgave him and celebrated his return to the fold, and declared that his son had been dead and is alive again, was lost and is found. These lessons were to teach the disciples about life. About how to make good choices and remain free. He told them that truth would make them free.

In chapter 16 Jesus explained to his disciples that which is highly esteemed among men is abominable in the sight of God. He was exposing the Jews' practice of judging men according to their wealth.

Jesus was teaching important principles that his disciples needed to understand - that true value is found in matters of the heart and mind, not in physical wealth. And those who worship mammon cannot relate to those who worship God. They live in completely different mindsets.

Jesus continues teaching his disciples. He uses an example of a poor man, Lazarus, and a rich man. He speaks again of the spiritual state of one class of people compared to another class of people – the people who trust God juxtaposed to the people who trust in mammon. It compared Lazarus with the rich man.

Lazarus is described as being "in the bosom of Abraham." Abraham had faith in God and his faith was imputed to him for righteousness. Also he was called the friend of God (James 2:23). Thus, Lazarus had the faith of Abraham. He trusted God, while the rich man put his trust in riches. Lazarus was comforted and content, while the rich man was living in a state of discontent.

The rich man in his misery sees Abraham "afar off" and begs him to send Lazarus to comfort him. Abraham replies that there is a GREAT GULF FIXED between them and the rich man, and no one can pass over. This gulf represents the divide between two opposing minds - the mind that trusts in man (the Jewish mind that trusts riches), compared to the mind that trusts God (the Christian mind). The one mind cannot relate to the other. Their minds function differently. The two opposing mindsets cannot communicate. It is a great mental gulf and cannot be bridged. The mind that trusts in the Beast System cannot hear or understand those who trust God. The gulf (i.e., the difference) is too big.

## POWER OVER MEN

In Acts 28 Paul was defending himself against the Jews. He said that they didn't trust God, nor Moses nor the prophets, so neither will they be able to understand even if someone rose from the dead. Their minds were disabled. They could hear the words, but they couldn't understand. Their ears wouldn't hear, and their eyes wouldn't see.

23. *Then appointing him (Paul) a day, there came many (Jews) to him to his lodging; to whom He was expounding and testifying of the kingdom of God, explaining to them concerning Jesus, from both the law of Moses, and the prophets, from morning till evening.*
24. *And some were persuaded of the things which were spoken, but some refused to believe.*
25. *Then being in disagreement among themselves, they were leaving, after Paul had spoken this word: "Well spoke the prophet Isaiah by the holy spirit to our fathers,"*
26. *"Saying, Go to this people, and say, Hearing you shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing you shall see, and not perceive:"*
27. *"For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and they close their eyes lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.*
28. *"Be it known therefore to you, that the salvation of God is sent to the nations, and they will hear it."*
29. *And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and were having great disputation among themselves.*

Acts 28:23-29

The Jews could not receive Paul's words because their

minds were captured by the Jewish mindset. As Jesus said in Luke 16, they could not understand even if someone rose from the dead. It is still the case today even though Jesus was raised from the dead to give them truth. Those who trust the "serpents" (as did Adam) turning a blind eye to God, will not (cannot) hear truth because their minds have been disabled and captured by the Jewish (Babylonian) churches. Their minds are on one side of the gulf, and truth is on the other side - and they cannot see it or hear it.

There is the explanation of the GREAT GULF that cannot be crossed except by a miracle. It is a "gulf" of blindness and deafness. Therein is the power of the mind and of thought.

People are controlled and captured by their thoughts (what they trust). So the question is: "Who do you trust?" Placing your trust in the Beast System is a death sentence.

## WHO DO YOU HEAR?

As Jesus walked among the Jews they could not understand his words. They demanded that He speak in a way they could understand. He told them He was speaking clearly, but their ears were unable to hear.

24. *Then came the Jews round about Him, and said to him, How long do you confuse us? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.*
25. *Jesus answered them, I am telling you, but you believe not. The works that I am doing in my Father's name, they bear witness of Me.*
26. *But you are believing not, because you are not of my sheep, as I said to you.*
27. *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:*
28. *And I give them eonian life (life of the New Covenant age); that they should not be destroyed in this age, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*
29. *My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.*

John 10:24-29

Jesus' sheep can hear his words. Our ability to understand comes from that one source only.

The Jews who trust riches, and the unbelievers who trust the Beast System could not hear Jesus' words. They were on the opposite side of that GREAT MENTAL GULF. This explains what is happening today. The children of the Beast System only hear the words of the system. They cannot hear Jesus' words. Neither can they hear our words - even when the words are clear and simple. The deaf cannot hear what is plain and simple to us.

The followers of Jesus are called "the Ecclesia." They are NOT called "the church." The word "church" is not in the Bible. Not once.

Jesus called us his Ecclesia. It is an important word, and you should know it. The churches never get it right because they are on the wrong side of the Great Gulf.

The Ecclesia is "the called-out ones." The churches are something else. That is the clear meaning of the word. Look it up and see for yourself. Then ask yourself what do the churches trust. And ask why churchgoers trust leaders who don't even know the difference between "church" and "ecclesia."

Also, take note that Jesus calls us OUT. The Ecclesia is the body of Christ who have been CALLED OUT. Called out of what, or who? Clearly Christ's called-out ones are to be separate. Different. They are driven by a spirit of holiness.

"Holy" is an English word that few people understand. The Greek word is "hagios." It has a simple meaning, and it is NOT what most people think. "Hagios" means "separate." And a "spirit" is a motivation. So the "holy spirit" is A MOTIVATION TO BE SEPARATE. That is how we are "called out." Called out of the Beast System; out of the churches. We are called to be a "holy" (separate) people:

5. You also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy (separate) priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

6. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a Chief Corner Stone, elect, precious: and he that believes on Him shall not be confounded.

1 Pet. 2:5-6

We are a holy separate (called-out) people. That is why we can hear the words of Christ, and the words of each other. But others do not hear. Their minds are disconnected from ours.

17. Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate (holy), says the Lord, and touch not the unclean; and I will receive you,

18. And will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

2 Cor. 6:17-18

## WHO CAN HEAR?

Sheep know the voice of their shepherd. They do not know the voices of other shepherds.

You are on one side of a great mental gulf, and most other people are on the other side of that gulf. Their minds do not relate to your mind just like the Jews' minds could not relate to the words of Jesus. The Beast System wants you to join and support it. They say this is the way you can have power and success.

But how can you stand with a system and people who are completely different from you?

3. Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

Amos 3:3

Remember, we are called OUT, not IN. We are not

called to fit in with the masses. Not called to churches filled with lemmings. Not called to political groups or campaigns of brain dead people.

Jesus' call is heard by his sheep only. His call is not heard by sheep belonging to another shepherd; those who belong to the Beast System. They do not hear his call.

5. These twelve Jesus sent forth, instructing them, saying, Go not into the way of the nations, and into any city of the Samaritans enter you not:

6. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Matt. 10:5-6

Jesus was not telling his apostles to stay out of the nations. Indeed, that was where He was sending them to find his lost sheep. Rather, He was telling them to not follow "the way of the nations." The way of the nations was to follow the Beast System and its call. The apostles were sent to find the lost sheep who could hear Jesus' call.

## PROTECT YOUR MIND

There is a war for your mind and it has never been more obvious than it is today.

4. You adulteresses, know you not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4

Are you uncomfortable with the direction the world is moving today? Are you repulsed by the political and business world around you? Are you feeling the call to a different way? If so, be thankful. It is your calling to be separate (holy). Those who follow Christ are not supposed to fit in with the call of the world. You are called out. Remember, the rich man in the parable was stuck in the wrong paradigm; the wrong side of the gulf. He was lost there.

Abraham, the father of the faithful, didn't fit in with the nations of his day. As he sought the city of God he was a stranger and sojourner to those nations. He was called out. Likewise you are called out. Let God lift you up and show you freedom and happiness. Let Christ free your mind. Find your happiness in Christ's Reign.

8. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded.

10. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

James 4:8&10

Embrace your calling to a higher plane of thought. Trust your King. His way is his Father's way. Don't trust the way of the Beast System. It is not your calling.

*Ben Williams*