

Laws of the Mind: Principles That Govern Human Thought Are Identified in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy and Reveal The Purpose of Life

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All glory to Jesus Christ - The Manifold Wisdom of God - CHRIST the King, The Infinite One, Day Star; 1 Peter 1:19, King of kings; Revelation 19:6, Brightness of the Father's Glory; Hebrews 1:3, Bright and Morning Star; Revelation 22:6, King of Glory; Psalms 24:7-10, Redeemer; Isaiah 59:20

Proposition – The true principles of psychology are found in the Bible.¹ The conduct of human beings under different circumstances and in a variety of situations can only truly be comprehended in the context of the Creator's design for human life and His creation of the human mind. The mind is regulated by laws which are as real as the laws governing society and the laws universally known in the realm of science. The development of character is directly associated with these laws and occurs irrespective of human opinion.

All human thought is but a fractional part of what is comprehended in the mind of Christ.² The mind is a trust from God.³ If man is to become immortal, his mind must be in harmony with God's mind.⁴ All our actions, good or bad, have their source in the mind.⁵ The human mind is susceptible of the highest cultivation.⁶ Every organ of the body was made to be servant to the mind. The mind is the capital of the body.⁷

All the varied capabilities that men possess of mind and soul and body are given them by God, to be so employed as to reach the highest possible degree of excellence. But this cannot be a selfish and exclusive culture; for the character of God, whose likeness we are to receive, is benevolence and love. Every faculty, every attribute, with which the Creator has endowed us is to be employed for His glory and for the uplifting of our fellow men. And in this employment is found its purest, noblest, and happiest exercise.⁸ When the earth was created, it was holy and beautiful. God pronounced it very good. Every flower, every shrub, every tree, answered the purpose of its Creator. Everything upon which the eye rested was lovely and filled the mind with thoughts of the love of God.⁸

Thoughts of God and of heaven are ennobling.⁹ When God is recognized as the theme of all thoughts, as the object of love, reverence, and worship; when the Lord Jesus, the Pattern, is kept before the mind, the heart is being cleansed from all moral defilement.¹⁰

By dwelling upon the themes of eternal interest, the mind is strengthened, and the character developed.¹¹ Right thinking lies at the foundation of right action.¹² If the thoughts are right, the words will be right.¹³ If the thoughts are rightly disciplined, it will be a far less difficult task to control the feelings.¹⁴ If the thoughts are wrong, the feelings will be wrong; and the thoughts and feelings combined make up the moral character.¹⁵

The proper cultivation of the mental powers makes man all that he is. These ennobling faculties are given to aid in forming character for the future, immortal life.

Man was created for a higher, holier state of enjoyment than this world can afford. He was made in the image of God for high and noble purposes, such as engage the attention of angels.¹⁶ The mind is to be fitted to receive the gift of immortality.¹⁷

Knowledge is power; but intellectual ability, without goodness of heart, is a power for evil.¹⁸ The true object of education is to restore the image of God in the soul.¹⁹ He only who created the mind and ordained its laws can perfectly understand its needs or direct its development.²⁰ The principles of education that He has given are the only safe guide.²¹ Love, the basis of creation and of redemption, is the basis of true education.²² God would have His love, His promises, written upon the tablets of the mind.²³ The image of His love may be so stamped upon the mind that it can never be effaced.²⁴

The experimental knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ whom He has sent, transforms man into the image of God. It gives to man the mastery of himself, bringing every impulse and passion of the lower nature under the control of the higher powers of the mind. It makes its possessor a son of God and an heir of heaven. It brings him into communion with the mind of the Infinite, and opens to him the rich treasures of the universe.²⁵

He who has taken no pleasure in contemplating God in this world, who has felt it no privilege to commune with God, will not be prepared to see God **or to appreciate his character** in the future life. Those who are occupied with earthly things, enjoy a low, cheap level, and their souls could not bear the purity of the saints in light. The conversation of heaven would be a language which they could not understand, and they could not endure the purity of infinite holiness. **Heaven would not be a place of perfect bliss to them; for the faculties of the mind** would not be capable of dwelling upon heavenly things.²⁶

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The abominations of the earth have defiled the minds of men, and made gross their imagination, until nothing is pure to the mind's eye. God designed that the mind should be elevated and noble, that through the merits of the crucified and risen Saviour, the soul should be pure and exalted; but through the contemplation of defiling things, through setting the affections upon the so called treasures of this earth, the mind is debased, and incapable of appreciating heavenly things. **God designed that man's mind should be capable of rising to heights of pure delight**, that we might take in the significance of things infinite and eternal, looking upon views of which God is the center.²⁷

Without the transforming process which can come alone through divine power, the original propensities to sin are left in the heart in all their strength, to forge new chains, to impose a slavery that can never be broken by human power. But men can never enter heaven with their old tastes, inclinations, idols, ideas, and theories. Heaven would be no place of joy to them; for everything would be in collision with their tastes, appetites, and inclinations, and painfully opposed to their natural and cultivated traits of character.²⁸

If we would have true peace and happiness of mind, sin must be removed. Sin is the cause of all our woes.²⁹ It is sin that darkens our minds and dims our perceptions.³⁰ It is sin that darkens the reason of man, and clouds the understanding.³¹ All sin is selfishness.³² Human selfishness is the barrier to eternal life.³³ Those who thus continue to cherish sin can never be saved as they are. Unless they change, they will never enter heaven.³⁴ **The sinner could not be happy in God's presence**; he would shrink from the companionship of holy beings. Could he be permitted to enter heaven, **it would have no joy for him**. The spirit of unselfish love that reigns there --every heart responding to the heart of Infinite Love --**would touch no answering chord in his soul. His thoughts, his interests, his motives, would be alien** to those that actuate the sinless dwellers there. He would be a discordant note in the melody of heaven. **Heaven would be to him a place of torture**; he would long to be hidden from Him who is its light, and the center of its joy.³⁵

Only by a continual improvement of the intellectual as well as the moral powers, can we hope to answer the purpose of our Creator.³⁶ There is a divine excellence of character to which we are to attain; and in striving to meet the standard of heaven, divine incentives will urge us on, the mind will become balanced, and the restlessness of the soul will be banished in repose in Christ.³⁷

Without Christ the hunger and thirst of the soul would remain unsatisfied. The feeling of want, the craving after something not temporal, not tainted with earthliness and commonness, could never be appeased. The mind must grasp something higher and purer than anything that can be found in this world.³⁸

If the mind is free and happy, from a consciousness of right doing and a sense of satisfaction in causing happiness to others, it creates a cheerfulness that will react upon the whole system, causing a freer circulation of the blood and a toning up of the entire body.³⁹ Satisfying joys will give vigor to the mind, and health and vital energy to the body.⁴⁰

The mind should be elevated to dwell upon eternal scenes, heaven, its treasures, its glories, and should take sweet and holy satisfaction in the truths of the Bible.⁴¹ To dwell upon the beauty, goodness, mercy, and love of Jesus is strengthening to the mental and moral powers.⁴²

You have cost much. "Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians. 6:20). That which you may regard as your own is God's. Take care of His property. He has bought you with an infinite price. Your mind is His.⁴³ **Some day, you will have to give an account for the kinds of things that you have put into that mind and the character that was formed as a result.** Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] of good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, **think on these things.** Philippians 4:8

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