

## Scriptures

- 1) “Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his *devices*.” ~ 2Cor. 2:11
- 2) “Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the *wiles* of the devil.” ~Ephesians 6:11
- 3) “And that they may *recover themselves* out of the *snare* of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.” ~2 Tim.2:26
- 4) “Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the *ignorance* that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.” ~Ephesians 4:18
- 5) “As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your *ignorance*.” ~1 peter 1:14
- 6) (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.” 2 Cor. 10:4-5

## CYCLES OF GROWTH: OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRUIT BEARING

- God designed each scenario to provide us an opportunity for reflection and fruit bearing in His kingdom for the healing of the soul.
- God NEEDS to challenge the bad habits of the mind (TO DRAW FROM THE INCLINATION OF MAN) that we may walk in our victory in Christ.

Satan is called the father of iniquity because born in him was found a nature that was distasteful to God and needs to be circumcised from us.

**Iniquity has to do with that nature. Sin has to do with the kingdom.** The sinner is the one who follows the kingdom of darkness and nurtures that fruit of iniquity in them. Your training is for the purpose that Christ become your conversation. The testimony that comes out of the training is what you're going for.

The OLD thought patterns are the old habits that are hard to break. And making decisions based on reflection of the covenant of Christ in each scenario God sets for our testing is the NEW habit of faith we are to learn. A transition must take place!

Satan did a magnificent job to hide these things from you and it's great that the Holy Spirit is bringing this out in the open where you can see it plainly.

## Assess the Challenge (Analogy: Little Red Riding Hood; who is knocking at the door?)

Identify the challenge in terms that speak LESS to our personal specifics (that have power over the emotions) and MORE to the kingdoms made manifest.

Examples –

1. Distracting thoughts during prayer or scripture reading, *bringing to remembrance* a conflict situation *as a lure to the mind* to build with thought of embarrassment and distrust and awakening emotions such as sadness, disappointment, or suspicion.
2. Conflictive thoughts of opportunities lost or threatening situation, *as to draw upon the mind* a pressing need to run after the scattered pieces of hope as to glue them together, awakening emotions such as hopelessness, despair, uncertainty.

One of the things that make reflection so effective in breaking the spell of the Enemy in the midst of a challenge is that it allows us to step out of the affliction (the effect of thoughts and emotions present), thus assisting our focus to then labor on.

What do these thoughts bring to mind?  
What is the lure for the mind?  
What emotions are awakened?

} **Why assess the challenge?**  
When assessing the challenge we are setting order to our thoughts to assist our focus to labor on.

## Identify Self Questions (01)

What is a Self Question?

Satan uses a paradox to call self and Christ into question.

Satan bends the perspective of thought to exalt itself against God.

### Example-

Luke 10:28, Jesus speaking to a man said, “This do, and you shall live.”

Luke 10:29, “But he, *willing to justify himself*, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor?”

Do you see the self question being asked? What was he *willing* to do? He was willing to justify Himself. God daily speaks to us (grace) and if we observe and do, we shall live. But Satan brings to mind the conflict of your own lack to bring the mind to a place of struggling to find clarity for self.

**Self Questions** is choosing to navigate around grace to take the knowledge of Christ to serve self to bring equity to this conflict. The hypocrite brings to the Lord his present state of thought, not to prepare his heart to combat with the revelation, but seeking to conform God to his thoughts.

## Identify Self Questions (02)

It's liberating to begin to recognize when a Self Question is being asked in the mind. Sometimes it's not even a question, it's a statement that is made as the mind begins to rehearse something you said or did, or something someone else said or did that makes you begin to call these things into question, which is an invitation to begin a journey of self enlightenment, which ultimately leads you to justifying self, which lands your faith in the dead zone.

You may be thinking about what Christ means to you and what the doctrine of Christ says about the value of His tools, the healing of the soul, and the importance of offering spiritual sacrifices of prophecy, but there is an undercurrent you are not aware of that continues to pull your thoughts back towards yourself to labor in a maze of thoughts that turn over upon themselves:

- Why do I continue to do that?
- Why did he/she say that? What did they mean?
- Why can't I seem to say what I mean and means what I say?
- Why is it so hard to get someone's attention?
- Why do people think of me that way?

## Identify Self Questions (03)

Do you see regret, hostility, fear, and confusion in these questions that ponder in the mind about self? Self questions are dangerous because they generate reflection that is not profitable for faith. Self questions bring self into question to then bring God and faith into question. Self questions is the wandering of the desire, which is the wandering scale.

- Self measures comfort zones to.....other people. This is a false scale.
- Self measures abilities to.....other people. This is a false scale.
- Self measures prejudice to..... experiences. This is a false scale.
- Self measures knowledge to..... history. This is a false scale.
- Self measures perception to..... tradition. This is a false scale.
- Self measures joy to..... gain. This is a false scale.
- Self measures sorrow to..... loss. This is a false scale.
- Self uses the eye of the flesh to .....measure reality. This is a false scale.

***At this stage you may experience a desire to turn off discernment*** and shut down the process, thinking it's easier to just "go and pray" than to reflect for faith. But, we can't be ignorant of Satan's strategy to generate Self Questions to then present them to us as if they are our own thoughts.

## Identify Self Questions (04)

It's what you do under pressure, at the time God is challenging the inclination of man, that really counts. If you treat the thoughts of the inclination as passing thoughts that you just push away to the back of your mind saying, "I won't think about that", that's not the same as identifying it and bringing it under subjection to Christ.

**You're coping. You're not overcoming.** We need to weigh the knowledge and understand the path it leads us down and then overcome by choosing the knowledge of Christ.

**If we ignore the suggestion,** we gain nothing, for ignorance is not faith. The cycles of our growth are necessary for God to not only *test the heart for obedience to grace*, but to also *reveal the corruption in the knowledge He is cleansing us from* and to prove over and over again that His grace is superior in power, wisdom, and understanding.

**God is teaching us how to progress with His knowledge** to partake of His rewards. He needs us to be aware of the progression of false knowledge from the *seed thought* that corrupts our perspective when those thoughts are *watered...* to the *troubling of the soul...* to the *maze* constructed by Satan to entrap our thoughts, whereas time is spent trying to think our way out.

## Generating Scale Questions (01)

God needs us to be able to have us compare that *progression of darkness* to the *progression of His truth* from the seed (knowledge) that brings enlightenment... to the strength of will when truth is watered by grace... to the liberty experienced to have gained and maintained God's perspective.

**The processes of both kingdoms are discerned** by placing thoughts upon the scale of Christ. We bring our thoughts before God and weigh their value, to take them captive to Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:5)

**We then see through the eye of grace** as we allow the Spirit to assist us in discerning their value. Grace arrests doubt and gives opportunity for faith. God grants an experience to measure thoughts upon the scale of Christ. We thus look for and seize each opportunity to reflect, that the heart might be enlarged by faith; that we should no longer need to find ourselves under the oppression of Satan's heavy thumb of cluttered and vexing thoughts and distractions, but rather experience the liberating power of the grace of God to set order to our thoughts in every cycle of growth.

The ANOINTING not only *builds our understanding* to gain Christ, but ALSO *exposes Satan's wiles for our discernment*. Are you ready to put your thoughts upon the scale of Christ?

## Generating Scale Questions (02)

A false balance offends God's holiness. "A false balance is abomination to the Lord: but a just weight is his delight." (Proverbs 11:1) Those who love God use the scale of Christ. He is the value of our souls and this is why He is the shekel of the Temple. . . "Everything is weighed to Me now!" I'm giving you knowledge to reverse death.

Grace is put within the Spirit! You can't put it within the signature (self). Self questions help the desire wander, testing many scales until it believes it has found rest. God gave us the true scale in Christ to weigh our thoughts upon to gain discernment to choose to reflect the mind of Christ.

### Scale Questions Have a Stopping Action to them. They Help to...

- direct the mind to consider and weigh thoughts upon the scale of Christ
- direct the mind and heart into that which we gain in Christ
- stop the flow of the thought to confirm flesh, to look towards Christ and His kingdom
- prompt our reflections to consider something other than what is evident to the flesh
- switch our confidence from the familiar rut of the flesh to the true traditions of faith
- make the necessary contrast between God's kingdom and that of darkness
- hasten the decision making process to stand in the testimony of Christ
- manifest Satan's snare...ensure our liberty to build.

## Generating Scale Questions (03) Examples of Scale Questions-

1. All thoughts lead somewhere. Where is this thought taking me?
2. Am I taking for self to sustain the projection of the imagination or am I reflecting on Christ to be sustained by grace?
3. How does the power of God assist us to live unto God and separate from Satan?
4. As one kingdom grows the other diminishes. Which kingdom is growing and which is diminishing?
5. Am I standing in God's perspective or trying to discern again from the perspective of my first birth?
6. Whose voice is being heard and whose voice is being silenced?

Scale questions are good, but let's see where it takes us in reflection to turn our focus away from the flesh to gain Christ. We might then also discern the voice of signature, which seeks for self and *reflect further on why* the Enemy would have us do so and how grace differs from this voice, etc., thus finding a progressive building for our faith to prosper in the opportunity offered by the challenge.

- **Keep in mind** that we want to get the reflections ROLLING by considering the understanding gained. This is how we engage in the faith building activity: rehearse (that which we have learned), reflect (on this wisdom in the moment of application), and reciprocate (our increase now gained as a thanks-giving token to the Lord).

## More Scale Questions (04)

There is a reason why truth is called the anchor of the soul. It prevents our thoughts from drifting back into the dangerous waters of the flesh. We need truth to continue to identify with Christ.

**So, keep in mind that** although we are identifying the inclinations to overcome them, we are not identifying with these things. Faith is our labor to identify with Christ. To do that, you might, for example, ask...

1. Which kingdom is manifesting itself in this experience of fretfulness?
2. Is the conscience being appeased by the wisdom of this world or is Christ being confirmed?
3. Do I see how Christ is being confirmed? Can I see how Satan is being restricted?
4. Can I see how God is exposing the shields Satan created for me to hide behind, showing me how he created them of my fears?
5. Can I see how false knowledge seeks to be my eyes instead of faith?
6. Can I see how reflection is the most important choice in times of conflict?
7. What is God's focus?
8. What substance does faith birth? How is this different than the substance of iniquity?

## Identify the Inclination of Man- Draw from the inclination summaries (01)

From here it becomes easier to identify what inclinations of man Satan is hoping to exploit as to have you cease building for God and start building for self (battle the conflict in the mind from the perspective of the 5 facets of the flesh). **EMOTIONAL PROFILING · TO DISTRUST GOD · TO JUSTIFY THE FLESH · TO PROCASTINATE · TO JUDGE**

Iniquity is the likeness of Adam's fallen nature (which is in Satan), which we are inclined to go back to, to again take that perspective, to respond to, to build upon that fruit. **TO EXPECT THE WORST · TO SEEK EQUITY IN THE FLESH · TO PLEASE MAN**

**FRUIT** --- The source of knowledge and the expression of likeness.

**The Deceiver's goal is to mislead and misdirect** - The devil is very good at manipulating how you digest information to create *illusions* for your mind to direct your mind to labor. **TO BUILD FAITH ON HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS · TO FOCUS ON THE WRONG THING**

**The Deceiver feeds and manipulates your thoughts** - The devil understands your deepest desires and he knows what your expectations are. He can skillfully manipulate your assumptions with great precision by exploiting the natural processes of the inclination of man he has been grooming since the beginning. **TO BUILD UPON OLD FOUNDATIONS · TO BE DISCONTENT · TO NOT CARE FOR THE THINGS OF GOD**

## Identify the Inclination of Man - Draw from the inclination summaries (02)

The inclination of man explains to us the natural rhythm that tends to occur in our thinking pattern that God challenges in our growth cycles. These are habits of thinking, acting, behaving, or proceeding that we are attracted to and come back to over and over again. This is an ingrained way of thinking that has become a part of us.

Why are we *inclined* to hold onto anger, resentment, blame, and guilt?

Why are we *inclined* to project for peace and security?

Why are we *inclined* to think negatively?

Why are we *inclined* to shield ourselves with aspiration?

By setting this out like this, we can now see where vulnerability comes into play. We are vulnerable. .

1. To our history and we are *inclined* to go there to fix things and find ourselves.
2. To our state of being. We want peace and security, but we are *inclined* to search for it in the flesh.
3. To emptiness and are *inclined* to fill the void by building for self.
4. To lack and loss and we are *inclined* to follow our instincts to find equity in it.
5. To our own nakedness and we are *inclined* create many shields to protect our nakedness and justify the flesh.

**TO JUSTIFY THE FLESH · TO PROCASTINATE · TO JUDGE · TO FOCUS ON THE WRONG THING**

## ASSESS YOUR VULNERABILITY (The Monkey, The Stallion, The Bear) (01)

Where are you vulnerable? As we have now seen, the tie between your vulnerability and the 18 inclinations of man is something you experience every day.

We can take a look at 3 different ways to quickly assess Satan's exploitation (snares) to help pin point a vulnerability. We will identify how Satan provides his knowledge as an option as he did with Adam in the garden and as he also did with Jesus in the wilderness. Satan was providing options for Jesus. He was providing himself as that option.

**The Monkey** – (intentional distortions and misconceptions)

**The Stallion** – (unrestricted, free roam of the imagination to increase for self)

**The Bear** – (to feed an appetite)

**THE MONKEY** – (The misconceptions that surround owning a monkey) - We are vulnerable in that our thinking patterns were developed by misconceptions, fantasies, and dreams that we continue to bond with despite the evidence to the contrary.

There are *many misconceptions in the mind* that once labored with becomes a false reference point the mind goes back to, to test what is true and what can be trusted. We are vulnerable to read things a certain way and expect things to happen a certain way.

## ASSESS YOUR VULNERABILITY (The Monkey, The Stallion, The Bear (02))

**THE STALLION** – (to increase for self by the imagination) –The wild stallion fears the corral and fights against restrictions. Satan plays upon a broad spectrum of fears, enflaming the pride of man to break down trust in God.:

- Fear of losing out, fear of becoming overcome by a situation, fear of not being understood, fear of uncertainty. To seize opportunities to build an image for self.
- We can observe how Satan plays upon man's fears to breed distrust towards God. God brings the heart of man inside the frame of truth and restrictions of the covenant to break man of this habit and to teach us that we can trust Him.

**THE BEAR** – (the appetite we feed) -- By faith we can see the appetite from God's perspective: as a power to be governed, and not as the absolute authority we once thought it was.

We are vulnerable to the familiar lure, which we work with to secure the likeness we've built for self. These are the mechanisms (the operation of the devil) we put to work to defend the image of self. This is the way of the old man, and this is what we are "putting off" "dying to self" by the operation of God by the Spirit.

## ASSESS YOUR VULNERABILITY (The Monkey, The Stallion, The Bear (03))

When asked to assess our vulnerability in each cycle of growth we are speaking again of the ability to observe which kingdom is presenting knowledge, to

- predict the connection between thought and action of either kingdom, to
- become observant and aware of what each thought leads to; to
- gain clarity by allowing God to frame our focus, to
- permit grace to officiate in the tug-of-war between the thoughts of the mind and the will of God.

**Once we are paying attention**, we soon find a rather tell tale pattern to all troublesome thoughts, that they began at a point in time with a thought we were vulnerable to believe because it may have held the subtle signs we were looking for.

Every thought Satan sows within the mind, no matter what it is directed at, is meant to break down trust in God. Trust in God is broken down when we allow the sowing of Satan's perception to go unchallenged in the scenarios God creates for this breaking down and cleansing to take place.

**The Deceiver works daily to empty your mind** of the knowledge of Christ to bring you back to that vacuous state of mind where you will think, believe, and act out the natural man.



## ASSESS YOUR VULNERABILITY (The Monkey, The Stallion, The Bear) (04)

Where the mind leans, the will follows. We are inclined, or lean towards building strong ties with the likeness of self we create for confidence of life.

- God calls us to build the likeness of Christ, but
- the aspiration calls us to build a likeness of self.

The natural man is trying to find himself in his own history or signature. The natural man trusts what has become familiar to him, and judges by the prejudices he learns. It is this affection that God challenges in order to break the thought patterns that draws us back to the old man.

**Look at these important phrases in the above information:**

The aspiration builds a likeness of self.

The natural man trusts what is familiar.

This affection draws us back to the old man.

**Now think again about your vulnerability....**

1. To build an likeness for ourselves
2. To trust in what is familiar to us
3. To be drawn back to identify with the old man

## IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (01)

Sometimes believers, when compartmentalizing the inclination *from* the vulnerability *from* the deception get confused because these 3 steps seem to be speaking of the same thing (Satan's wiles). So why do we have/need 3 things to describe one thing?

**God is providing a look at Satan's snares from 3 different angles** and each angle needs to be reflected upon to gain God's perception and profession.

***If you have not seen it yet, there is a strategy behind Satan's exploiting the natural inclinations of man.***

At first, this might be hard to pin point. It might not be clear what God is addressing or what you should be reflecting on when "Identifying Satan's Deception" and it can be discouraging or frustrating for you if this continues to be cloudy.

**An image is often helpful because** it can remind us of a word or meaning we can to hang onto that may easily come to mind. Pictures also fill in details that may be difficult to communicate or grasp. As you approach Step 3 in your 5-Step exercise, you may be asking, "What is a Satan's Deception? How can I best pinpoint what God is addressing for healing?" Visual cues help to identify/pin point what might ordinarily escape our attention.

**IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (02)**

When you think about the following word pictures think about Satan's strategy to provoke, for The time of testing is a time of PROVOCATION.

**The Pipe** – (to disfigure the face of Christ, i.e. to change )

**The Distracted Soldier** – (to distract you when you are weary)

**The Prisoner** – (to take captive and confiscate your sword)

**The Strangled** – (to remove the life of Christ)

**THE PIPE - A lead pipe, coming directly to the face to strike a blow.** This image is of a face being altered and speaks of Satan's desire to disfigure the face of Christ, that image that God is molding within you through reflection and reciprocation of His knowledge. The provocation is to FOLLOW a line of thought to remove the image of Christ from the mind.

We are given many provisions of the Lord to counter Satan's provocation. If we can, at that moment remember this image of the lead pipe striking and know that Satan's intent is to disfigure the face of Christ it is a clear reminder of our first oath of faith that we made to love God by keeping His Word hidden in our hearts. God is our first love, not self.

**IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (03)**

**THE DISTRACTED SOLDIER - A soldier running on the beach; fatigued as if on the last leg of a very long training exercise. Three people run up to him shouting, "Hey soldier!"**

This word picture is helpful to identify Satan's provocation as to DISTRACT your attention from God's focus on your training.

**Doesn't it often seem that it is at the point of fatigue** that the devil approaches with a distraction? The same was true for Jesus in His hour of temptation in the wilderness. The devil came to Him after 40 days, when He was at the point of fatigue.

**Every distraction carries a promise** and this is why God calls it a "provocation". Each provocation promises that a line of thought is worth looking into and spending time investigating, when in fact, every thought that Satan sows within the mind breeds distrust and discontent with God.

**Every provocation is Satan's attempt to sow knowledge** within the mind that establishes an independent principle that binds you to yourself. In order for the binding to work you would need to (1) first accept the thought pattern and (2) then gain the witness of the world or the witness of the past.

**IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (04)**

**This provocation changes the perception**, which results in a change in profession whereas you're now talking out and sharing those burdensome thoughts with others. So we can see that a progression takes place from perception to profession.

**ON THE OTHER HAND:** The knowledge of Christ does not establish an independent principle, but works to bind you to God. God provokes unto righteousness, to change our perspective from the principle of the Letter to the principle of the Word, from the binding of the Letter to the witness of the past to the binding of the Letter to the Word and the authority of the anointing found in the witness of God.

**THE PRISONER - A person being escorted down into a cargo hold of a ship. A man stood by proudly holding the sword he had confiscated.**

What comes to mind with this image was the old prison ship captives, which were transported from one place to another. The sword of truth being confiscated may speak to you of how each thought pattern is designed by Satan to disarm truth while taking faith captive.

**IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (05)**

Another interesting word in regard to prison ships is that they are used to “detain” prisoners. So putting this together, Satan’s strategy is to take captive our thoughts to disarm and detain.

So the next time you experience a troubling thought arise in your mind I want you to quickly go back to this mental image of being led into the cargo hold of a prison ship, your sword being confiscated. A provocation is taking place whereby Satan is seeking to disarm, imprison, and detain you in your thoughts.

**THE STRANGLED - A person pinned on the ground with an opponent on top of him, using a strangle hold, with 2 hands around the neck.**

This was interesting to me as the Spirit ministered to me that with each provocation the devil was seeking to remove the breath /LIFE of Christ from faith..

**So again, when a troubling thought arises in the mind**, know that a provocation is taking place. Satan is seeking to remove the life of Christ from your faith. The manner in which the person in the vision was pinned to the ground by an opponent also speaks of Satan as an aggressive wrestler. Have you noticed that anxiety begins to build as your thoughts are pinned down to bring them into submission to a lesser power than God.

## **IDENTIFY THE DECEPTION (The Pipe, Distracted Soldier, The Prisoner, The Strangled) (06)**

So, those were the 4 images, the Spirit of the Lord presented for our learning. Let's look at them again and put them into context of Step 4 in our 5-Step Process to Overcoming.

When Satan begins a provocation his strategy can be seen in these 4 ways:

1. to disfigure the face of Christ
2. to distract
3. to take captive, disarm, detain
4. to remove the life of Christ

If we never see the opportunities presented to us by God to take captive our thoughts for the purpose of fruit bearing we'll never see the provocation.

**IRON CLAD PERCEPTION:** To encase in iron, to make firm.

Satan's thought patterns *seem* ironclad. Each thought and resulting perception seems firm in the mind because we have followed the thread of a particular thought before and we retained its meaning for a long time in our memory.

God uses our growth cycles to circumcise from the mind the provocation, to show us the fallibility of what we had accepted as "ironclad". The thought patterns introduced by Satan as a provocation will never set your perspective in the true hope of God.

## **IDENTIFY GOD'S PERSPECTIVE**

You'll notice that as you reflect your way through a challenge to gain the mind of Christ, that a transition takes place as you're gaining God's perspective at each step.

The inclination of man explains where we are prone to go in our thoughts. But, God mercifully challenges this habit of mind by providing. . .

1. **truth as the new pattern** for our mind to go back to over and over again;
2. **the record of Christ as our new history**, and
3. **righteousness is our new state of being**.
4. **We are no longer empty**, for God fills us with the substance of His kingdom as we reflect on His knowledge.
5. **We no longer lack anything**, for the tools of Christ increase the soul in His virtue.
6. **We no longer build for ourselves**, but for God.

**You are brought before the same choice every day** so it is important to keep your vessel full of faith to stay prepared to make that choice.

So then, **the inclination of man explains to us God's deliverance** and salvation through Jesus Christ. God daily brings you into a place of strength with Him, challenging the inclination of man so that it will not overshadow your faith.

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU OVERCAME! (01)

Hebrews 3:6. “But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.”

For this teaching I’d like us to think of “*the end*” as the end of each growth cycle rather than “the end of life”. We are to hold fast the confidence of the promise of God in Christ Jesus without reversion unto the end of our growth cycle.

**How do you hold onto something that is spiritual?** The tool for holding onto our confidence in Christ is faith and faith is fueled by GRACE and REFLECTION. Holding on (or embracing) is an activity of faith that we are assisted to perform through the 5-Step Process of Overcoming.

If you applied yourself to each step, you overcame the inclination of man and the vulnerability therein; you overcome Satan’s deception strategies, and gained God’s perspective.

**REMEMBER:**

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU OVERCAME! (02)

Have you noticed that **a single troubling thought that pops into your mind** never stays singular? Thoughts have a way of building. For example you may find any one of these thought patterns familiar...

I regret ---- in regard to family  
I wish --- in regard to needs  
I have the habit of --- in regard to repeated pitfalls  
I resent --- in regard to a spouse  
I should have --- in regard to the past.

All these thoughts began as a single impression when the provocation is presented. When not taken captive to Christ, the thought settles in the mind to HOMESTEAD, claiming squatters rights (a word of knowledge ministered for this teaching).

Our lifetime here follows the same pattern of testing for promise that is seen by observing the exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt into the Promised Land. God assigned us a time of testing for overcoming for fruit bearing to prepare us for the bosom of the Father.

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU OVERCAME! (03)

Now let's look at what has **CHANGED.....to see clearly your victory in Christ.**

**1) The knowledge we draw upon has changed.** We used to draw upon the knowledge that helped us to rival our neighbor to take from them what we needed for ourselves, but now God has given us the victory over the knowledge of this world by giving us new knowledge in Christ to labor with.

By this new knowledge (as we labored with it) we experienced a change in our appetite. False knowledge now does not have the same taste it once did. Meaning, that by our labor with the Spirit, we learned that false knowledge is weak and unprofitable. We learned to remove our confidence from it.

**When did we learn these things?** We learned them in the moment of testing when God created the scenario to teach us that false knowledge is poisonous to the soul. We learned this by the washing of truth.

**What did we stop doing?** We stopped trying to give strength to our weakness. How did we learn to turn away from false knowledge and stop feeding on it and stop taking confidence in it?

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU OVERCAME! (04)

**We learned in the moment as we labored with grace** and considered what the Spirit set before us for our choices and we learned by observing God's reward upon our faith that the severing that takes place was ALWAYS for your good.

**2) We used to follow the counsel and advice of our own souls** and that of others, which we took as a witness to flatter our selection of knowledge and used them to shield ourselves in times of vulnerability.

**But now we understand that** the flesh is the portion of man and Jesus Christ is the fullness of God. We used to honor man for his portion and that was an addiction God is able to break through Christ.

God causes us to TRIUMPH in Christ by designing the law of reciprocation in the knowledge of Christ. He says, "You give back to Me what belongs to Me." Christ belongs to God. We give Him back to God in the reciprocation of knowledge in the moment when the choice of faith is laid upon us to complete our cycles of growth to the glory of God.

**2 Corinthians 2:14, "Now thanks be unto God, which always causes us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of his knowledge by us in every place."**

## CONGRATULATIONS! YOU OVERCAME! (05)

Now let's look at what we have **GAINED.....to see clearly your victory in Christ.**

**1) The foresight of our heavenly Father:** Webster's defines foresight as: "thoughtful regard or provision for the future."

- Foresight is the need for looking ahead to avoid real dangers.
- Foresight is the development of the necessary thinking to anticipate change and challenge assumptions.
- Foresight attempts to broaden your perspective to be able to see more than what might be apparent. And finally,
- Foresight speaks of the need to frame our focus to identify where strategic foresight is called for.

Applied to the covenant of Jesus Christ, foresight is the ability to observe which kingdom is presenting knowledge, to predict the connection between thought and action of either kingdom, to become observant and aware of what each thought leads to; to gain clarity by allowing God to frame our focus to permit grace to officiate in the tug-of-war between the thoughts of the mind, the emotions, and the will of God, to gain the mind of Christ.

**Corinthians 15:57, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."**

## WHAT I WANT TO REMEMBER (WIW2R)

In each growth cycle, we have learned from Christ what to take hold of, how to put off the old man and how to put on the new man in Christ. These are things you'll want to hang onto, to remember, to recall to mind when again challenged.

**WIW2R statements are great to collect from other saints as well, to keep your reflection book stocked!**

**WIW2R:** Christ gave me power to subject myself wholly to Him. I need no longer busy myself with vain attempts to rule others.

**WIW2R:** To learn from God there must be a subduing of one's pride. We are servants to grace and students of truth. I am consenting to the loss, and yet also the labor to replace that with God's perspective to tame the will.

**WIW2R:** : I am not a permanent resident in this dimension. My purpose for being here is only to be tested and proven that I might return unto My Father.

**WIW2R:** Through each cycle of growth the lord is teaching me to place my trust in Him and not in myself.