

# Divine Attitudes

Isaiah 26:3 “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

Philipians 4:7 “The peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep [lit.: *garrison*] your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

II Timothy 1:7 “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

Deuteronomy 6:5 “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart [mind], and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Colossians 3:1, 2 “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above [*keep thinking about the upward things*], not on things on the earth [*sum total of earthly viewpoint*].

1. What is our attitude toward worldliness? In Romans 12:1, 2 “this world” refers to every thought and action which is contrary to the absolute criterion of the Word of God. The believer must learn the Word in order to know what earthly good and heavenly good are.
2. What is our attitude toward peace and happiness? When our happiness is determined by people, places, or circumstances, we can easily fall apart. Reread Isaiah 26:3 above. “...whose mind is stayed on Thee.” THE MIND CAN ONLY STAY ON JESUS WHEN WE ARE BEING CONSTANTLY SATURATED BY HIS WORD! (1 Cor 2:16)

II Corinthians 10:5a “Casting down imaginations...” “Imaginations” literally means deceptive fantasies or a dream world. We are never oriented or stabilized or have happiness and peace until we have *Divine attitudes*. This is knowing and applying the Word! II Cor 10:5b “...and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.” *Every thought to Christ!* In our own strength this cannot be done.

Philipians 2:5, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” The mind must be saturated with the truth (John 14:6). When you *read, study, store, and apply* the Word of God you will have *stability, peace, happiness, and productivity* in your life. You cannot get too much of the Word! You will never have “spiritual indigestion” because the Holy Spirit *is the digester!*

II Corinthians 10:6 “And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.” The Christian must be ready to fight against Satanic counterattack. “...all disobedience” is earthly viewpoint—sloppy thinking. “...to revenge all disobedience”—to guide people out of sloppy thinking, *we must be thinking properly—have divine attitudes—ourselves!* The Christian way of life is what we think! If what we think is heavenly, then what we do will glorify God!

The only way to be productive for our Lord is to be: born into his family; growing in his Word; resting in His love; applying His promises; basking in His grace.

The divine attitude of peace will carry you through prosperity or adversity and *you'll never come unglued; you'll never fall apart!* 2 Thess 2:2 “That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled...”

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3. What is our attitude toward love? John 15:12 “This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you.”

II Corinthians 10—Paul talks about the attitudes of Jesus.

- a. v.1 - “meekness means gentleness of mind—an *attitude* of grace.
- b. v.2 - “gentleness” literally: graciousness—knowing how to *apply* grace.
- c. v.3 - The Corinthians were extremely critical toward Paul. They wanted to destroy his own attitude towards the grace of God.
- d. Paul introduces some of the criticisms of the Corinthians by the pronoun “who.” Paul is very stern and straightforward here.

Criticism No. 1: “Paul sure is a brave man when he isn’t here—he can write a powerful letter. He’s a roaring lion when he’s away, but if he were here he would be a mouse.” In verse 2 he is praying that he won’t have to be tough - but he is *very* capable of toughness.

Criticism No. 2: “See how he writes to us? Anybody who talks to a fellow believer like that must be carnal!” Paul had always desired to come in sweetness, love, and graciousness to teach, but because of the legalists he was forced to say, “I think to be bold [tough] against some which think of us as if we walked according to the flesh.”

Vs. 3 - We live in this life—the real world—but our warfare (we are fighting the world, the flesh, the devil) will not succeed by human personalities, talents, or energies of the flesh.

Vs. 4 - If we are to bring into captivity every thought unto the obedience of Christ, it cannot be done by human power, ingenuity, or ability. *Because our weapons in spiritual warfare are spiritual weapons, we can only wield them successfully with Divine attitudes.* What do we have that can fight against the world, the flesh, and the devil? *God-saturated thoughts!!! Divine attitudes!!!*

The thing that motivates, empowers, and strengthens a believer is heavenly (Divine) viewpoint—occupation with Jesus Christ (OWC). *If a person is thinking earthly (human) viewpoint, he is wide open to satanic infiltration.* A upset, miserable, useless believer cannot be distinguished from an unbeliever. This kind of believer can only see life from the vantage point.

A Spirit-saturated, Word-intoxicated believer is one who applies the Truth of God to any and all situations and is victorious. Rom 8:28; 1 Thess 5:18.

I Peter 5:7 - “Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you.”

Psalms 55:22 - “Casting all your burden upon the Lord, for He careth for you.”

Isaiah 41:10 - “Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”