

THINKING LIKE GOD

Psalm 73:16-17

Introduction: It seems that every generation has the same problem, the wicked and worldly prosper and those who try to live Godly lives suffer. So, there are doubts, questions, uncertainties and feelings like those of the Psalmist when he wrote, "*...what's the use?*" Sometimes life is like trying to climb an icy bank, gain an inch and slid back three feet. Just what do God's people do? What is the answer? How do we see things as God does?

I. THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO LOOK AT THINGS

1. There is man's way, the natural way, the world's way.
 - We see things in light of our own thinking, understanding and knowledge.
 - We reason by means of "facts" that are seen, just as the Psalmist did. The wicked prosper and God's people don't. It just isn't fair!
 - We forget that our natural way of thinking, seeing things is really selfish for we think about how does this/that affect me, mine, my.

2. There is God's way, the unnatural, spiritual way.
 - Christians are always in constant danger of slipping back into the natural way.
 - When convicted and then saved, we were thinking like God for we saw ourself as a sinner, in need of a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ and called upon Him to save us. We were thinking as God and not the natural way.
 - The unsaved cannot ever think like God, they cannot see as God, therefore they have no interest in Godly things whatsoever.
 - Nicodemus and Jesus had a conversation one night.
 - Nicodemus was thinking and reasoning as a natural, worldly, lost man.
 - He wanted to understand everything before committing himself to Jesus.
 - He wanted to bring God's way of thinking and doing things down to his level/way.
 - Faith is the big part in learning to think like God.
 - God tells Isaiah "*...My ways are not your ways, nor my thoughts as your thoughts...*"
 - The Christian life is totally spiritual as it began in a spiritual rebirth, thus making the Christian a "new" person, a spiritual person.
 - To think in the natural, human, normal, old way brings problems, doubts, difficulties to the Christian and one begins to sound like the Psalmist.

II. HOW DOES ONE THINK LIKE GOD?

1. Start off by going to God's House.
 - God meets His people, His family there as they gather together in His presence.
 - God's House will always be somewhere and it will continue to endure and last.
 - Look at the people there. They are like YOU. They have problems and suffering, too.
 - Saints of long ago often died for their faith, that's thinking like God, remember Jesus?

- Those who don't go to God's House will continue to live disappointed lives for God visits His people anywhere there are two gathered in His Name and every person has one problem or another.
- It is God's command, not man's, to meet together in His presence weekly.

2. Read God's Word.

- For us, God's Word is readily available, everybody can have a Bible.
- God's Word takes you immediately into the spiritual realm.
- God's Word was written by people just like us. They had problems and difficulties also.
- God's Word contains purposes for His Children - you and me.
- God's Word teaches about the Christian life, the how to's and what to do's.
- God's Word is where God reveals Himself most often.

3. Pray and Meditate.

- Only when you face God will you ever think like God.
- Many are so muddled and confused in their thinking that they cannot pray properly.
- One's mind, attitude and spirit must be as God's or there is no use to pray.
- One must take time, wait until there is an awareness of the actual, literal presence of God.

CONCLUSION:

1. There are two ways to see things: Man's natural way and God's spiritual way.
 - One cannot understand what or why God does things by thinking man's natural way.
2. To learn how to think like God:
 - Go to God's House regularly.
 - Read God's Word regularly.
 - Pray and fellowship with God regularly.
3. One's total life must be spiritual to think like God and understand why things are as they are.