

HAVING A SOUND MIND

June 6, 2012

Sin, at the very least, causes a corruption of the mind. This can be seen when Satan corrupted the mind of Eve as he replaced the word of God with a lie, “Ye shall not surely die” (Gen. 3:4). Paul was well aware that sin corrupted the mind of its victims. He said, “For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Cor. 11:2-3).

Look at the destruction of sinful habits in the lives and minds of those that partake of sinful activities. Many have destroyed their lives and lost their families and their material blessings because they thought it was okay to “socially” consume alcohol. Many have become enslaved to prescription drugs or illegal drugs. Many, once faithful members of the Lord’s church, have turned back to the world because of a few false notions introduced into their minds. This is why we are to always be growing in faith and studying the words of God.

Pure Christianity never, at any time, turned a single person into an alcoholic, a drug addict, a homosexual, an adulterer, a liar or any other thing that is in opposition to the will of God. Paul wrote, “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a SOUND MIND” (2 Tim. 1:7).

We have many examples of those whose minds were settled and happy upon receiving and obeying the word of God. Jesus spoke of the lost son saying, “He came to himself” (Lk. 15:11-32). When he did return to the father and repented, all was forgiven and well. When the Ethiopian obeyed the gospel it is said of him, “he went on his way rejoicing” (Acts 8:39). After Ananias taught Paul the gospel he stopped praying and fasting and obeyed the gospel; and after having done so he “preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God” (Acts 9:20).

The gospel of Christ will help you and me if we allow it to do so. Peter so clearly stated, “Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Pet. 1:13). We need to always have our minds prepared for the work of the Lord.

Therefore, we should not allow our minds to be corrupted by the sins of this world. “Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (Js. 4:7). Always protect the sound mind that each of us have received through obedience to the gospel and “be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58).

If you have not enjoyed the peace that comes with obedience to the Gospel, that can be accomplished by: believing that Jesus is Who He said He was (Jn. 8:24), repenting of sins (Acts 2:38), confessing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:37), being immersed in water for the remission of your sins (Acts 22:16), and then living faithfully to Christ for the remainder of your life (Rev. 2:10). Then the peace of salvation can be enjoyed.