

TRUMPET CALL

WELCOME TO THE UPTOWN CHURCH!

JOHN 12:12-16

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,



JOHN 12:12-16

“Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!”

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check your bulletin for more information.

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PRAYER OF INVOCATION

A pastoral prayer of invocation, adoration, thanksgiving, and illumination.

Psalm 67:1-2, 105:4

PASSING THE PEACE

Unity & Reconciliation

*Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:11-12;
1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 5:14; Matthew 5:23-24, 18:15*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Corporate prayer of our covenantal commitment with our Heavenly Father through the Son of God, which encourages the confession of sin together.

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Our Father,
who is in heaven,
holy is Your Name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.



Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against
us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.



For Yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
forever and ever.

Amen.



PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Worshipping and praising the Lord in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

The Gospel According to Paul

Romans 1:16-32, 3:23-25, 6:23; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Ephesians 4:17-24

ROMANS 1:16-18

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.



ROMANS 1:19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.



ROMANS 1:21-23

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.



ROMANS 1:24-26

Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions.



ROMANS 1:26-28

For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.



ROMANS 1:29-31

They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.



ROMANS 1:32

Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”



1 CORINTHIANS 6:11

“And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”



ROMANS 6:23, 3:23-25

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.”



EPHESIANS 4:17-19

“Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.



EPHESIANS 4:20-24

But that is not the way you learned Christ! — assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”



PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pastoral & Congregational Prayer

Philippians 4:6-7

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”



BLESSING & DISMISSAL OF THE CHILDREN

Call children to the altar for prayer and blessing.

Matthew 18:1-14, 19:13-14

PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Worshipping and praising the Lord in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

DECLARATION OF THE LAW

The Greatest Commandment with a supplementary passage.

*Mark 12:29-31; Matthew 22:35-40; Luke 10:25-28;
John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7-8,21; Romans 13:9-10; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8
Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Leviticus 19:18*

‘Hear, O Israel!

The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

And you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your
strength.’



This is the first and great commandment.
And the second is like it:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
On these two commandments hang all
the Law and the Prophets.



For the commandments,
“You shall not commit adultery,
You shall not murder,
You shall not steal,
You shall not covet,”



and any other commandment,
are summed up in this word:

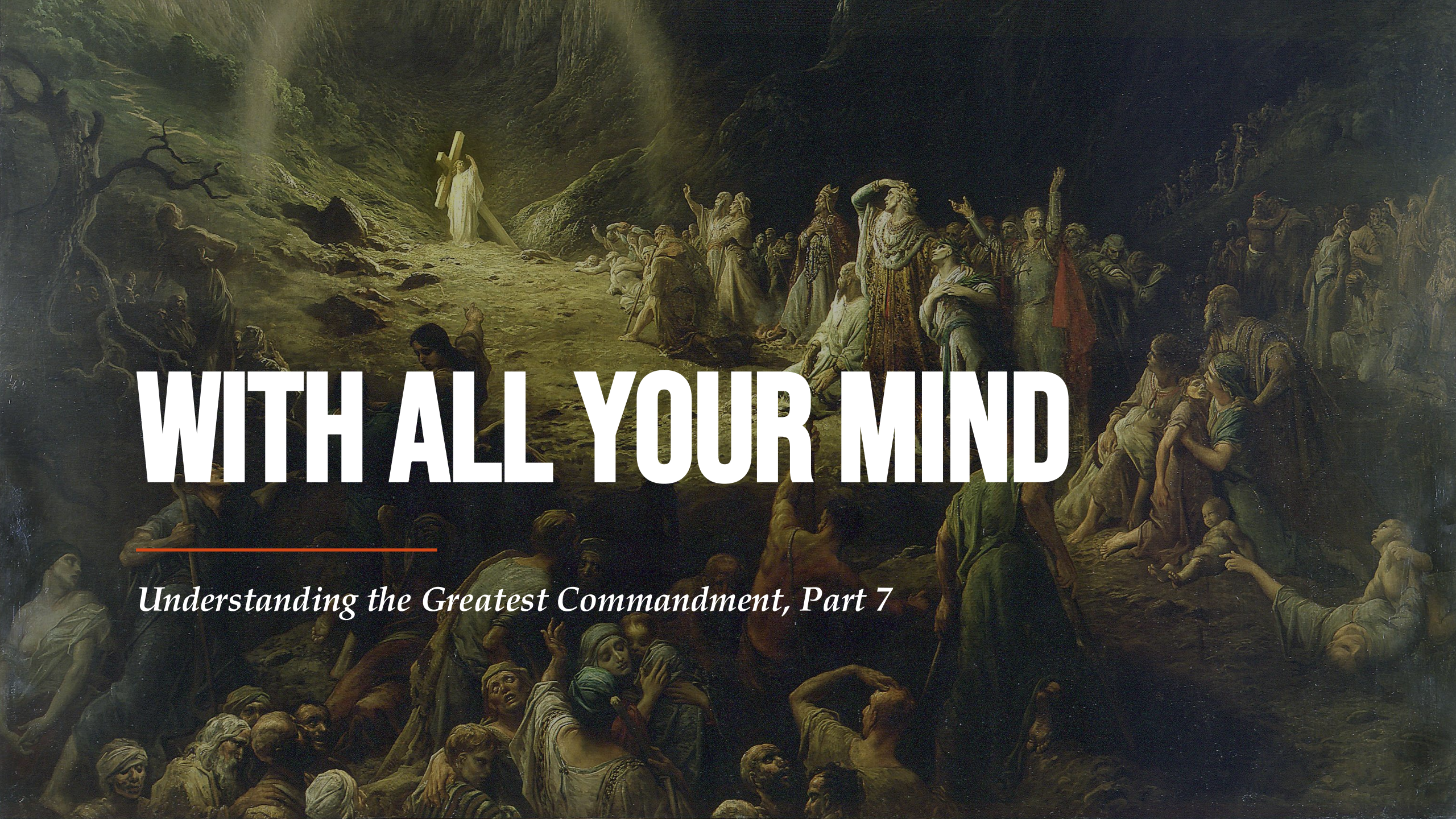
“You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.”

Love does no wrong to a neighbor;

therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 13:9-10





WITH ALL YOUR MIND

Understanding the Greatest Commandment, Part 7



GREATEST COMMANDMENT: THE LAW OF LOVE & LIBERTY

Distinct Laws in the Old Testament

- Shema — **Deuteronomy 6:4-9**
- Priestly Law — **Leviticus 19:18**

Christ Harmonizes these Laws in the NT

- Greatest Commandment (Royal Law) — **Mark 12.29-31; Matthew 22:35-40; Luke 10:25-28; John 13:34-35; Rom.13:9-10; Gal.5:14; James 2:8; 1 John 4:7-8,21**





GREATEST COMMANDMENT: EXPOSITION

1. Hear, O Israel:
The Kingdom
2. The Lord our God, the Lord is one!
The Trinity
3. And you shall love the Lord your God
The Law of Love
4. with all your heart, soul, mind, strength.
Whole Self + More



QUICK SUMMARY

The Sunday before last...

THE CONSTITUTION OF MAN

- The composition of the human form.
- Man is broken into two overarching parts — material and immaterial: physical + spiritual / “flesh (body)” + “spirit (soul)”.
- Technical distinctions that differentiate each part — spirit, soul, heart, mind, and body — it is not word mush or fluffy banter (**1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 4:12**)
- **Today is the last day on this subject where we tie everything together and bring clarity all we have learned.**



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your...

- **Soul** — Lifebreath: *the spiritual body that animates the physical body.*

“breath of life, living creature, life force; the inner self”

- Feed the spiritual body with spiritual truths (Word of God)
- The Spirit is breath of life in the ‘lungs’ of the soul, so to speak

- **Heart** — Conscience: *the centre of the whole inner self.*

“moral constitution: moral law, moral belief, inner judge”

• Flow of action, from belief to behaviour



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your:

- **Heart** — “with all you can”
- **Soul** — “with all you are”
- **Mind** — ?
- **Strength** — ?



LET'S CONTINUE

What does it mean to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength?

LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

- How do you love the Lord your God with all your mind?
- First, we need to know what the mind is, according to Scripture?
- **What is the mind?**
- *Q: What is the “keystone” to the meaning of mind?*
- No surprise here: **reason, thought.**



WHAT IS THE MIND?

In the Hebrew OT, there is no single word that explicitly means “mind” or perfectly captures our definition of the “mind” in all contexts.

- In ancient Judaism, **the mind is spiritual first**. The mind was either broader in definition or distinct from the brain entirely. **The mind-brain relationship is a novel concept from our naturalistic/scientific culture (Mind ≠ Brain).**
- **Deuteronomy 6:5** — “with all your heart, soul, and strength,” but no mind.
- Instead, in ancient context, the concept of the mind is always implied within the context of other words and the culture itself.



WHAT IS THE MIND?

Translators often ‘repackage’ existing words into “mind”, depending on context/subtext of the verse:

- **heart** (*levav*)
- **soul** (*nephesh*)
- **spirit** (*ruach*)
- **guts** or **kidneys** (*kilyah*)
- **mouth** or **speech** (*peh*)



WHAT IS THE MIND?

Now there are distinct words that we directly associate with the mind (so did the ancient Greeks), in ancient Hebrew:

- **intention, imagination** (*yetser, maskeeth*) — **Jeremiah 14:14, 23:16**
- **understanding** (*bîn, tawvoon*)
- **meditation** (*hagiyon*) — **Psalm 19:14**
- **reason, intelligence, wisdom** (*hokma*)
- The most common word translated into mind is heart (*lev*) — the heart implies the deepest aspects of the mind: *understanding, discernment, wisdom, moral reasoning, etc.*



WHAT IS THE MIND?

- **1 Kings 3:12** — Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind (lev), so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.
- **1 Kings 4:29** — And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind (lev) like the sand on the seashore

Why is this important? Because the heart includes the mind — the heart guides the mind with moral guardrails.

- **Psalms 19:14** — Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.



WHAT IS THE MIND?

- Therefore, while the mind is not a distinct category in the original *Shema Yisrael* (**Deuteronomy 6:4-9**), it is immediately implied by the words:
heart and soul.
- This is why when Jesus includes loving God “with all your mind” into the greatest commandment, his critics agree with him!



WHAT IS THE MIND?

- **Mark 12:32-34** — And the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. And to love him with all the heart and **with all the understanding** and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.”
- **Matthew 13:15** — For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and **understand with their heart** and turn, and I would heal them.



WHAT IS THE MIND?

In Greek, the most common words for mind are:

- ***Nous*** (νοός)
- ***Dianoia*** (διανοία)



WHAT IS THE MIND?

- ***Nous*** — knowledge, reasoning, and understanding (**Romans 12:2; 14:5**).
 - Considered the “eye of the soul” for spiritual perception
 - This is the most used word for mind in the Greek NT
- ***Dianoia*** — the process of consideration, reflection, meditation, imagination, logical reasoning, and understanding (i.e., good/evil thoughts)

Dianoia is used is by Christ in the greatest commandment (**Matthew 22:37; Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27**).



WHAT IS THE MIND?

Like Hebrew, there are Greek words that also describe aspects of the mind:

- ***eido*** — knowledge
- ***ennoia*** — wisdom, insight, logic, planning, imagination, intent (**1 Peter 4:1**)
- ***noema*** — thoughts, perception, how we perceive and observe the world, identifying spiritual (typological) patterns (**2 Corinthians 3:14, 4:4, 11:3**)
- ***phronema*** — awareness, attention, focus, and intentionality
- ***gnome*** — a sense of mutual purpose, ambition, goal; being of “**gnome**” (**2 Corinthians 17:19**)



WHAT IS THE MIND?

Like Hebrew, there are Greek words that also describe aspects of the mind:

- **logos** — translates: “Word” or “speech” (**John 1:1**), and when it is used regarding the mind, it means, “to reason an account”.
 - think your “inner voice”



WHAT IS THE MIND?

What is the mind?

- **Our sense of reason**: *practical, intellectual, moral, and spiritual reasoning*
- **2 Peter 2:12; Jude 1:10** — compares darkened minds and sinful behaviour with “**irrational animals**” (carnal, bestial, immoral)
- **James 3:15** — wisdom from below is “earthly, unspiritual, demonic.”
- **James 3:17** — “**wisdom from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, **open to reason**, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.”



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE: HEART V. MIND

The keystone difference between the heart and mind is functional:

- **Mind is reason**
- **Heart is moral**

The heart is the centre of the inner person, the moral guardrail that guides your reasoning: how you perceive the world or interpret events, why you reflect or forget things...



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE: HEART V. MIND

The keystone difference between the heart and mind is functional:

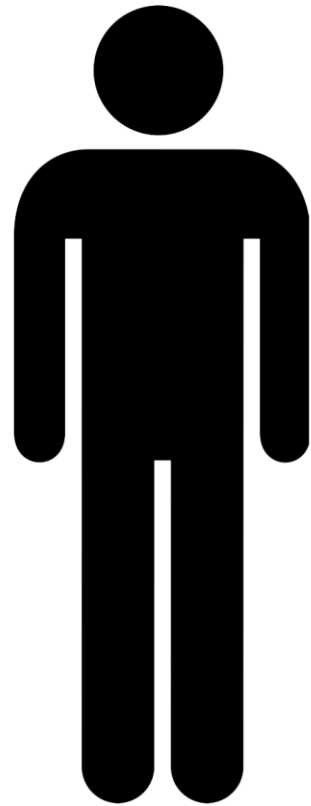
- **Mind is reason — teaching (inward application: doctrinal)**
- **Heart is moral — preaching (outward application: practical)**

The heart is the centre of the inner person, the moral guardrail that guides your reasoning: how you perceive the world or interpret events, why you reflect or forget things...

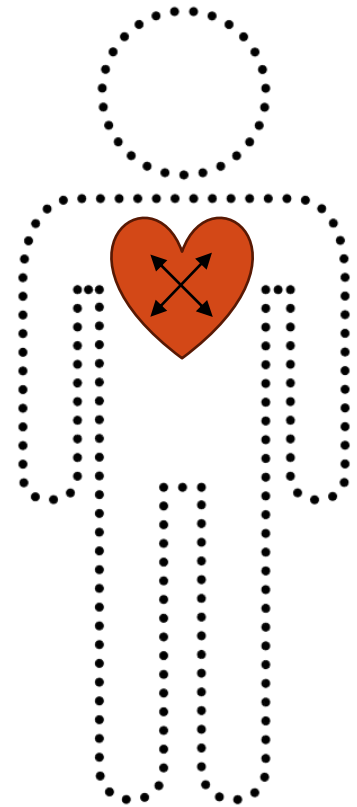


THE CONSTITUTION OF MAN

(ANALOGOUS, NOT ACTUAL)



BODY



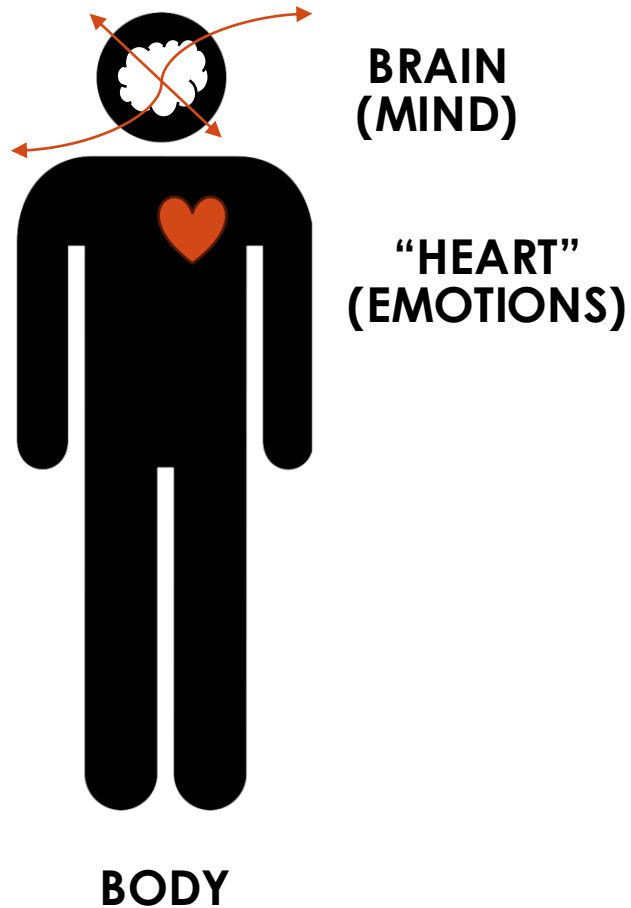
HEART
(MIND)

SOUL



THE CONSTITUTION OF MAN: NATURALISM

(ANALOGOUS, NOT ACTUAL)



JEREMIAH 17:9-10

The heart is deceitful above all things,
and desperately sick;
who can understand it?

“I the Lord search the heart
and test the mind,
to give every man according to his ways,
according to the fruit of his deeds.”



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE: HEART V. MIND

- **Mind > Heart > Soul (our spirit anchored by the Holy Spirit)**
- This tells us that sin/Satan enter into your life first through ordinary mundane means (thoughts, ideas, goals) that are not held captive to God.
- **Godly reasoning/thinking is the frontlines of defense**, which protects your heart (moral beliefs/laws) and soul (life) from deception and darkness.
- Holy thoughts safeguard your beliefs from being tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine (**Ephesians 4:14**). Without heavenly reasoning, your heart and soul are directly exposed — you need a sound mind.



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE: HEART V. MIND

- God is the reason for reason! There is no reason for reason to exist, if God does not exist. Christ is *logos*.
- **James 1:5-6** — If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.
- **James 3:17** — “**wisdom from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, **open to reason**, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.”



LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

Reason is a pattern of thinking, organizing/ordering thoughts properly:

- **Logic of the Order of Worship** — Whole Sunday service facilitates the worship and glorification of God in the right order
- **Renewed Reasoning: Weakness of the Evangelical Church IMHO**
 - Teaching (mind) v. Preaching (heart) is commanded: **1 Tim.4:16, 2 Tim.4:2**
- **Education System** — No biblical studies in highschool; then, we train our children to university standards, and give them milk on Sunday, and we wonder why they are less interested in the faith and more interested in the sciences, philosophy, etc.? **Higher**



**HOW DO YOU
APPLY THIS?**

Critical Application

LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

How do we love God with all our mind (*nous, dianoia*)?

- You shall love the Lord your God with all your knowledge, understanding, wisdom, logic, discernment, meditations, attention/focus, reflections, considerations, awareness, intent, goals, imagination/creativity, etc.
- Let's boil these all down to just:

(1) Reasoning — higher abstract thought

(2) Thinking — ordinary practical thought



2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.



LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

How do we love God with all our reasoning?

1. Consistent & Cohesive Worldview

The lens for how we perceive and observe the world; a framework for making sense of how things work and fit together — “**faith seeking understanding**”

- Does the way you reason align with Scripture?
i.e., *Do you reason like the apostles?*
i.e., *Do you interpret the OT like the apostles in the NT epistles?*



LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

How do we love God with all our reasoning?

1. Consistent & Cohesive Worldview

- How much of your opinion informs your interpretation of God's Word?
- What is your methodology when studying the Bible? And is it consistent?
- Do you identify spiritual patterns when you read? (I.e., *theology*, *typology*)



PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!
Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.
The Lord is at hand.”



LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

How do we love God with all our thinking?

2. Mental Discipline (Self-Control)

- What passing thoughts are you entertaining?
I.e., Social Media (doom scrolling, selfies, obsessive opinion posting)
- What thoughts are you letting take root in your heart? (2 Corinthians 11:3)
 - **The path of least resistance is the devil's walkway.** Unbridled passing thoughts directly affect your soul—it is how sin enters your life (whether you realize it or not).



LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

How do we love God with all our thinking?

3. Holy Focus & Glorified Future

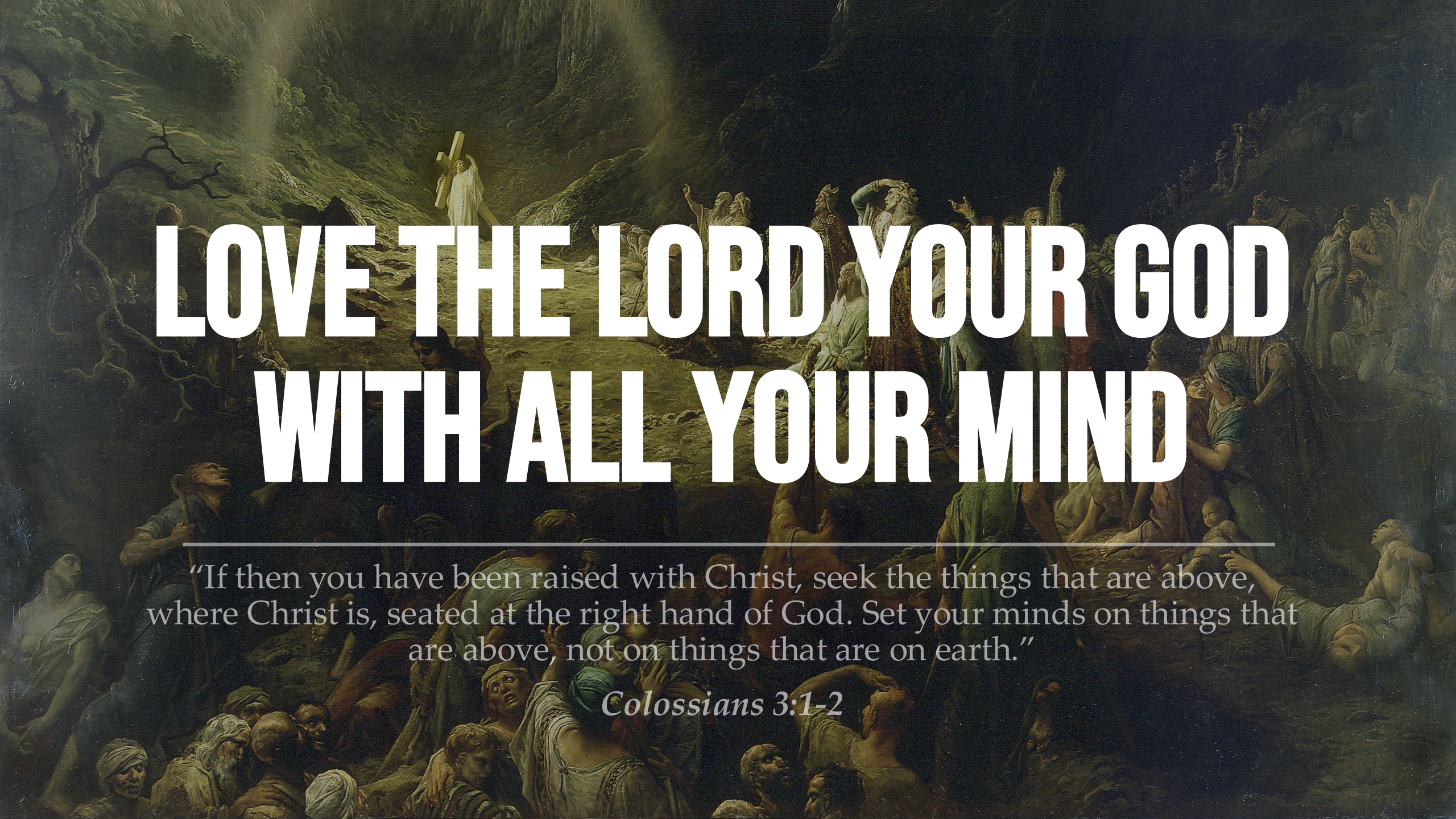
- Where are you going with your life?
- What do you think about regularly? What easily holds your attention?
Are you focusing on and seeking your own ambitions/goals first, to live a better life now?
- Or are you seeking the Kingdom first, to build up the body of Christ and freely offer His fruit of the Spirit to all people? (**Matthew 6:33**)



COLOSSIANS 3:1-2

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **Set your minds on things that are above**, not on things that are on earth.”





LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR MIND

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

Colossians 3:1-2



LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOU COULD

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”

Colossians 3:1-2



SACRIFICING TO GOD WHO YOU ARE BECOMING

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

Romans 12:1



IS YOUR MIND BEING RENEWED?

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Romans 12:2



IS YOUR MIND LIKE CHRIST?

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Isaiah 1:18

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

Pastoral Prayer of Application of God's Word.

CALL THE ELDERS OF THE CHURCH

Prayer in the aisles — altar call, confession of sin, anointing of the sick,
pastoral intercession, along with prayer, praise, and worship.

James 5:13-16; Psalm 103:2-5

JAMES 5:13-16

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.



PSALMS, HYMNS & SPIRITUAL SONGS

Worshipping and praising the Lord in song together.

Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16

BENEDICTION

Priestly Blessing

BENEDICTION

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God the Father,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all this week.
Go in the peace that surpasses all understanding.
Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14



