**BIBLE - ARE WE SPIRITUALLY MINDED PEOPLE?**

***ROMANS 8:5-8 – TEXT***

**INTRODUCTION** – Many in our audience have rendered obedience to the gospel. We are instructed to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If we grow as instructed we will become spiritually minded. If we are spiritually minded we will be rewarded with life and peace. Just because we are the children of God does not mean we are spiritually minded people. Look at the nation Israel as an example They were the children of God but many times God rebukes them for their lack of being truly spiritually minded. If we are not careful we can fall into the same line of thinking as the children of Israel. The purpose of the lesson today is to make us understand what is really involved in being spiritually minded.

***THE SPIRITUALLY MINDED PERSON:***

1. **IS GOVERNED BY THE SPIRIT** – The Holy Spirit has revealed the inspired word of God to us for our instruction. As a child of God I must allow that word to guide or govern my life.
2. **ROM. 8:14** – Do we allow the word of God given to us by the Spirit to lead us? Or do we determine there are certain areas in our life we are not willing to allow the Spirit to control.
3. **REV. 1:11, 2:11** – The Spirit revealed to the 7 churches of Asia how to be spiritually minded. All of them could hear the message but did they all really desire to be spiritually minded. Apparently they did not because most of them received warnings they needed to change in some ways. They needed to repent but would not heed the warnings.
4. **GAL. 5:16-17** – If we will walk in the Spirit we will not be choose to fulfill the lust of the flesh. We need to examine our activities and see if they help us develop spiritually or do they simply please my desires.
I must allow my life to be governed by the Spirit.
5. **DISCERNS EXCELLENCE OF SPIRITUAL OBJECTS** –
6. **1 COR. 2:14** – The natural man in this verse stands opposed to the spiritual man. This man fulfills the flesh its passions and desires. This type of person will reject revelation being under the influence of carnal wisdom. The worldly man does not receive or embrace the evidence for faith. Because he has no respect for spiritual or eternal things.
7. **PSA. 19:7-10** – The Psalmist declares the excellence of the word of God. We need to develop a desire for the things that are truly important. God’s word should top the list. Parents teach your children to have the proper attitude and respect they should have toward the word of God.
8. **TITUS 1:15** – A spiritual mind is a pure mind. We are defiled when we profess to know God and do not engage in good works but rather prefer to be disobedient. A spiritual mind is easily detected by our actions.
9. **COL. 3:1-5** – The spiritual mind is set on things eternal in nature. Where is your affection? Are the things of this earth of ultimate importance to me?
10. **LOVES SPIRITUAL EXERCISE** –
11. **PSA. 122:1** – What is my attitude toward worshipping God? Do I possess a great desire to assemble? Do I intentionally make decisions and place obstacles in my path that will cause me to become less spiritually minded?
12. **LUKE 17:10** – Are we even doing all God has commanded us? Do we even fulfill our duty to God? Then how can we think that we are truly spiritually minded.
13. **MAL. 1:13** – Have we become like those the prophet Malachi addressed? Do we think of our spiritual service as weariness? What did weariness cause them to do? They began to offer God their leftovers in regard to their giving. Spiritually minded people give God their best. Those whom the prophet is addressing had been taught to give God of their first fruits – in other words their best!!!
14. **JN. 1:40-42** – The spiritually minded does not have a problem understanding the need to teach others. They usually will not find a problem in finding someone to teach. Spiritually minded are concerned with the souls of others.
15. **LOVES THE COMPANY OF LIKE MINDED PEOPLE** – How much do you value the company of Christians? It says a good deal about how spiritually minded you are.
16. **3 JN. 4** – Part of walking in truth is to enjoy the fellowship, the association, the friendship we can have with others who are in Christ.
17. **1 COR. 15:33** – If the statement made by Paul is true, “Evil companions corrupt good morals” then the opposite is also true that good companions produce good morals. Who can possibly encourage us more than being in the company of Christians?
18. **EPH. 5:11** – Do not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Associate with people who will make it easier for you to walk in the light.
19. **ABHORS THAT WHICH IS EVIL** – Do we abhor what is evil or do we just tolerate it? There is a distinct difference.
20. **REV. 2:6** – The Christians at Ephesus were spiritually minded enough to hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans. Those who are spiritually minded must hate sin.
21. **ROM. 12:9** – The spiritually minded will abhor that which is evil and will cling to what is good. We will hold on for dear life to those principles taught to us by the word of God.
22. **1 COR. 3:1-3** – Are we still a babe? Are we still carnal? We need to grow up!! We must become spiritual people? Why? It prevents division. If you look at history of the Lord’s church division has been caused by those who are not truly spiritually minded.
23. **LONGS FOR A HEAVENLY HOME** –
24. **REV. 22:20** – Would we pray or desire for the Lord to come quickly. What if the Lord does come quickly and we are not prepared. Those with a spiritual mind are in a state of readiness. Do you long to be with the Lord? John stated. “Even so, Come Lord Jesus.”
25. **PHIL. 1:21**- Look at the example of Paul. He realized death was gain for a Christian. Death is only of gain to a spiritually minded person.
26. **2 COR. 4:16-18-5:1** - The spiritually minded person works for the things which are eternal. They realize this earthly tent will be destroyed but they know they have a heavenly eternal home awaiting them.

**CONCLUSION** –

As a child of God are you truly spiritually minded?

Those who possess a spiritual mind will gain life and peace.

How are you walking?

Are you walking after the flesh or the Spirit?

 If after the flesh then repent!!!