Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Commentary

From The Sermons Of
WILLIAM MARRION BRANHAM

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Take God's Healing Thoughts, Let Them3Become Your Thought3
As They Were Speaking About Him, That's When He Appeared To Them
As Long As You're In The Way, Then God Cannot Do Nothing For You
Don't Think That Kind Of A Negative Thought; Don't Let It Go Through Your Mind
Your Thoughts In Heaven, Is Louder Than Your Voice Is On Earth. Remember That
You Cannot Get Anything From God With 26 A Negative Thought
You Know, It's When We Begin To Think About Him, That's When He Appears
Let's Keep Jesus On My Heart, In My Mind All Day Long, Day And Night. That's The Way
The Bible said, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these
things." You'll Get What You're Thinking About 71



62 In order to stay with God, stay gentle. God is gentle.

In order to stay with God, stay with love. God is love.

Stay meek. Stay...Not never be self-sufficient.

Always rely upon Him.

Never use your own mind; take His thoughts. Let His thoughts be your thoughts.

And take Them into your carnal mind, and repeat Them over. And say, "O God, take all my doubt away, and let my thoughts be Your thoughts."

And you sick people, do that as we're speaking. Just take away, cast away the thought of sickness.

Take God's healing thoughts, let Them become your thought. 63 "Think upon these things," the Bible said, "if there be any praise, if there be any virtue."

56-0923 - Spiritual Adoption



17 And as we set as he did in the days gone by, if our meditations is taken off of our church affiliations, if our meditation is taken off of our work, or off of the superstitions that we have in our mind, and place them upon Him and His Presence, He will come and do the same thing tonight that He did for blind Bartimaeus on that day.

If we'll just do it, if we'll just keep our mind stayed on Him.

And notice, it's when we are thinking on those things.

The Bible said, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things."

Now, I want to ask you a question. What good does it do us to come to church and set in the meeting and ponder and may be discouraged because we didn't get a prayer card, or maybe be discouraged because of some ill thing a neighbor did, or discouraged about one little matter or the other? That keeps Christ away from you.

It's when you're thinking on Him.

That's when the disciples, after the resurrection, was going down the road to Emmaus, as they were speaking about Him, that's when He appeared to them.

We got our minds on too many things of the world. If we would throw those things off our mind, and think about Him and His soon coming, there'd be more revelations and power in the church. But we keep thinking about the things... "What am I going to do tomorrow? What will I do next week? Will I hold my job? Will this be..." All those things are in the hands of God. Think on Christ.

<mark>57–0</mark>301 – Blind Bartimaeus

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

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134 And the only thing you have to do, to know He is here, is get yourself out of the way. See? As long as you're in the way, then God cannot do nothing for you. When you think your thoughts, then God's thoughts don't have a chance. But if you'll quit thinking your thoughts, and

think His thoughts! "My thoughts is not your thoughts," He said. "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things." Not what some church is going to say about it, but what God said about it!

135 Like this little lady laying here, shaking in this cot. That woman is going to lay like that all of her life, unless she can get her her faith set right straight on Jesus Christ. And no matter what comes or goes, it be revealed to her, then there is nothing going to stop the healing. That's right. But when you get your...Depends on what you're thinking about.

136 If you'll just believe and have faith, God can do anything for you. And the greatest thing He can do for you, tonight, is sweep your soul right back into the Presence of His Being. Right back there to where every person in here...

137 Just think, what if the Holy Ghost had everybody in here completely in His control? Think of what would take place tonight, think what would take place in Shreveport by this time tomorrow night! They would have headlines everywhere, "A bunch of people went crazy. They were healing the sick and raising the dead. They're doing all kinds of things down in Shreveport, Louisiana, United States,

U.S.A." They'd have it on television, of what they was doing, if the Holy Ghost could take completely control.

138 Why don't He? He wants to. He is willing to. He is waiting. "Well," you say, "I've asked Him so many things, I just hate to ask Him too much." Ask abundance, that your joys might be full!

139 Could you imagine a little fish, a half inch long, out in the middle of the Pacific, saying, "I better drink of this

water sparingly, I might run out, someday"? Could you think of a little mouse about that big, in the great garners of Egypt, think, "I'll allowance myself to one grain <mark>a day, 'cause I might run out</mark> before the next harvest comes in"? Oh, my! Now divide that by a hundred billion, and that's how easy you can exhaust God's mercies and grace and power to you, if you'll just believe it, you can just leave yourself...Well, I'm

sorry I...that's, you can't exhaust Him.

140 He is the inexhaustible fountain of Eternal Life, here tonight to make manifested any Divine promise of His Bible, to anybody that'll believe It. Amen. Yes, sir. The only thing you do is drink. Come to the fountain and drink. Drink until you're satisfied. You can't exhaust Him. No, sir. He is absolutely the inexhaustible, and you can just drink and drink and

drink. You can drink your healing in. You can drink your salvation in. Just come and drink. "Let him that's thirsty come and drink." Amen. I—I— I—I know He is here, and I know He'll do the exceedingly, abundantly if we'll just let Him do it.

63-1201E - Just Once More, Lord

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

$\sim 18 \sim$



30 You know, when you think about God, when you keep your mind... Oh, you're think...

You set in church and think about everything else but God: how you going to do your washing; what are you going to do at the office tomorrow; how are you going to do this, that, or the other?"

Keep your mind off of that and think on God.

The Bible says, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things."

"Wonder if I'll be called in the prayer line?" "Wonder if God will speak...?" Don't think that kind of a negative thought; don't let it go through your mind. Make every word positive, and every thought positive. See it?

You know, the disciples, after resurrection of Jesus, Cleopas and his friend was on his road down to Emmaus, and as he went around talking about Jesus, thinking about Jesus, He stepped right out of the bushes and walked with them, while they were

thinking on, while they were meditating.

That's the same way Jesus does today.

In my heart, on my mind, all day long, let me walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, with the heavenly Dove, let me have fellowship all day long.

56-0311E - God Using His Gift

$\sim 22 \sim$



19 God, in all ages, has had gifts that He's brought to the people. He's always made Hisself known in all ages by His gifts. And Jesus, here, had just been called Beelzebub. And He—He had told them that He would forgive them for doing that, but when the Holy Spirit came, and if they spoke against that, it would never be forgiven. See?

Because many people have said, "What is the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit? My old southern mama used to tell me, it was for a woman to have an abortion case, take life that she couldn't restore. That was the best that she knowed. But that isn't it.

The blasphemy of the Holy Ghost is to call the working of the Spirit an unclean thing or

an evil thing. Jesus said, "Because they said, 'He has an evil spirit, calling the Holy Spirit in Its work an evil thing'; that's unforgivable." There's nothing in the world, any time or any place, could ever forgive you for that, for speaking one word against the operation of the Holy Spirit.

20 And remember, I want to show you how clear it is. Now, those Pharisees didn't say right out, "Say, you're

Beelzebub." But they thought it in their mind, and Jesus perceived their thoughts. Read right back in Saint Matthew 12 and see if that isn't right? They thought in their minds that it wa—He was Beelzebub. And Jesus perceived their thoughts, and they thought He was a fortuneteller. And then He said, "I'm going to forgive you." See? Your thoughts in heaven, is louder than your voice is on earth. Remember

that. What you think... "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things," said the Scripture.

58-0613 - The Queen Of The South



And while I'm praying and speaking, I want every person in here to have this in your mind, that as soon as prayer begins to go for the sick, every one of you is going to get up and walk out of the building well.

Don't have nothing else in your mind. Keep thinking that.

"If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things."

You cannot get anything from God with a negative thought.

"He that cometh to God, must believe that He is, and a

rewarder of those that diligently seek Him."

58-0625 - A Greater Ihan Solomon Is Here



143 You know, it's when we begin to think about Him, that's when He appears. It's when Cleopas and them was thinking about Him, when He appeared. It's always when...

"Let the meditation of my heart and—and let all my thoughts, and let all my songs, let all that I am just meditate on Thee, Lord, day and night." That's the way to get God close to you.

144 Quit thinking about what the Joneses is doing, and what you're going to do next week, and all this thing. Just keep... just let... "Fill my way every day with love as I walk with the Heavenly Dove. Let me go all the while with a song and a smile. Fill my way every day with love." That's right.

145 Go right on down the road no matter what; school keeps, or not. If it don't, we turn the teacher out, and just go right on believing on the Lord. See? Keep the meditations upon God. Think on these things. The Bible said, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things."

146 Well, our thoughts are always negative. We come in the prayer line... I notice they come in the prayer line, "Oh, if—if—if he will tell me... Is it *this*?" Oh my, you never get nothing like that. No. You're so negative to begin with.

147 Come like that: "Come to the fountain filled with Blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins, where sinners plunge beneath the flood lose all their guilty stain." That's it. Come with faith believing. "He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and a Rewarder of those that diligently seek Him."

148 I'm not going to go through Oral Roberts' prayer line, then go through Tommy Hicks' prayer line, then go through Osborn's prayer line, and Allen's prayer line, and Branham's prayer line, *So and so's* prayer line, go to *this* church and *that* church. Why, you're just wasting time; that's all. That's all.

149 The thing to do is just-just say and make up your mind that it's God, and God said so, and I'm going to meet His requirements and that settles it forever. Amen. That's it. God said so. Go out to my pastor, say, "Pastor, the Bible tells us to call the elders, anoint them in oil, pray over them, prayer of faith shall

save the sick. That's all I have to know." Amen.

61-0215 - Thou Son Of David, Have Mercy On Me



34 When you take God's promise and hold it, "Lord, You told me that if I would meet the qualifications of repentance, and so forth, that You'd give me the baptism of the Holy Ghost. I'm right here on Your hands till You do it."

like kind of Buddy Robinson's testimony there. Got out in the middle of the cornfield, said, "If You don't give me the Holy Ghost," said, "when You come back to earth, there'll be a pile of bones laying right here." I like that. Yes, sir. That's when he got something. That's the way you want to do it. Hold on to it.

35 I admire that woman. Her faith was in the prophet. She held him. She said, "I'm not going to leave you." So well, it's just...

Now, Jesus taught that same thing. How about the unjust judge and the widow? He wouldn't revenge, and although she cried day and night, why, he—he revenged her enemies just to get rid of her. Said "How much more will your Heavenly Father give
them the Holy Ghost who ask Him?" That's what we want.

36 If you don't believe the Holy Spirit's real, take a hold of God's promise, and just stay with it. Hold on to it. Don't leave it. If you don't believe He's a Healer, whatever disease or trouble you have, right now, don't wait for the healing line; just take a hold of it right now, and say, "God, I'm on Your hands."

And Satan will say, "You're no better."

That's what he told me. I said, "Looky here, old slewfoot. If you don't... If you want... If you like to hear me testify about the glory of God, stick around. But you ain't going to shake me away from that. If you like to hear the testimonies of God, and the praises of Divine healing, stand around. I'm going to ring it out just as long as I can. Just stay right with it. Stick around and listen at it. I invite

you to listen at it. Stay around."

First day, no better; next day, no better; next day, no better. I just kept staying, testifying, praising God, pressing through the dark clouds. He made a promise. Finally there it was. He get tired after while and run away.

37 Then, we find then that the prophet seen he couldn't get her off his hands, so he said, "All right. I'll gird up my loins, and here I'll go with you." Oh, my. So Gehazi met them coming back. Her faith... Now, the—the stick would've done the job, but it's where your faith is. So her faith wasn't in that; it was in the prophet.

So here he comes up there, and all of them bewailing, and the carrying on, and screaming, and all hope's gone, and everything. I can imagine him saying, "Shh, shh, shh, shh! Keep still." What's he going to do? I want you to notice. He went in the room where the baby was laying on the bed, shut the door behind him, just he and the baby. That's where the most successful times when you get alone with God. See? Get alone with God.

Jesus said, "Enter into a closet and close the door. Pray to your Father what seeth in secret. He will open... He will reveal it to you openly." $\sim 42 \sim$

38 So I can see the prophet. Now, the Bible said he walked to and fro in the room, just walking. "Lord, here I am. What can I do?" Walked to and fro, he was waiting on the Spirit. After while it struck him. Goes over, and lays his body over the baby's body. Began to get warm, got up, and started walking again, walking back and forth.

He felt the anointing coming greater, so he laid his body on the baby, and it sneezed seven times. Picked it up, brought it out, presented it to its mother.

Oh, how little Bartimaeus liked that story. He'd say...?... [Blank spot on tape—Ed.]

39 "See, God has to work His purpose, Bartimaeus. See? God has to do something, bring up somebody for a certain thing. He ordains things." $\sim 44 \sim$

"Oh, Mommy, you're so pretty. I—I just love you, Mommy."

"And you know, Bartimaeus? Before you were born... You don't understand it now, honey. But before you were born, I dedicated you to God, to Jehovah. You know what? It wouldn't surprise me a bit but what your little eyes will see the Messiah."

And he thought, "Oh, Elias... If he'd ever come now, I'm blind." "But you know, Bartimaeus, God uses little boys for His glory. He's got a purpose. And I believe He's got a purpose in life for you."

Then, as he thought that, "Oh, it couldn't be now. Look what it was. Poor mother, she prayed. She's gone on years ago. But I guess what she prayed for was lost. You know, on them cobblestones..."

40 No, no. There's never a sincere prayer ever made but

what it's answered. I'm fiftyone years old, and I've been in the ministry thirty-one years. And I'll say before God's Bible; I never did sincerely ask for anything but what God gave it to me or told me the reason why He couldn't. I say that as a servant of Christ. That's right. Of the tens of thousands of times that I've asked Him for things, sincerely asked Him for anything, take, single out something and asked Him for it, He'd either tell me... He'd give it to me, or tell my why He could not. So I know it always is best, if I can't have it.

Your little baby boy would ask for your straight razor to shave with it, you'd be a poor father to give it to him. He'd hurt hisself. He knows what's good for us and what's not.

41 So then Bartimaeus would think this: "You know what? Just a little bit below here is a ford where Israel crossed over. And just think, Right down this same road where that priest come a while ago, that great prophet Elijah with Elisha come arm-in-arm down that road, walking down to the Jordan to open her up again." [Blank spot on tape— Ed.]

42 Then, from the time that Israel crossed until the great prophet, Elijah, God spoke and opened the sea. He could open the waters. He thought, "Oh, if I'd only lived in that

day, them two great prophets arm-in-arm, walking down to the Jordan: one of them was coming back, the other was going up. And the old one had fought Jezebel and Ahab, and <mark>sin</mark>s of the world. And ju<mark>st</mark> across the river was... A horse was tied over there to some bush, and a chariot of fire was going to take him up to glory. The young prophet is going to receive a double portion for his ministry to

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come back. Walking arm-inarm..."

He said, "If I'd been setting on this rock then, I'd have run out and..." [Blank spot on tape—Ed.]

43 "Cause you're a man who brings God real to the people. Just ask Jehovah, and I'll receive my sight. But the priest tells me that all those men... Jehovah quit doing that years ago." They still think the same thing, but He goes on just the same, just... Yes... Still Jehovah.

I imagine he thought, "If I could've ever got out there and a stopped... Why... Them prophets, they sure would've blessed me and I would've had a healing. But it's all over now. Days of miracles is past, so there's nothing that I can do about it, I guess, but just set here blind."

The winds blew, and he shooked his... covered hisself up into his coat, and he begin

to think about another story, the great Joshua one day. Not over hundred or two yards from where he was setting, Israel crossed that mighty river by that great prince Joshua.

44 Then he remembered another story, that while they were encamped out there, Israel, God's great Pillar of Fire hanging over them, one day Joshua, the great captain, walked out to view his—get his strategy on how to take those walls out of the way, of Jericho. While he was walking around, he seen Someone walking out to meet him, was another Warrior. Joshua pulled his sword, because he was a fighter. He swung his sword up, and he said, "Are you for us, or are you for our enemy?"

Then that great fellow pulled His sword, and the lightning flew off the end of it. He said, "I'm the Captain of the host of the Lord. I'm the Lord's Captain."

The great mighty Joshua throwed down his shield, throwed down his sword, took off his helmet, and fell at His feet.

45 Oh, he might have said, "If I would've lived in them days, I would've liked to fell before His feet too." But little did he know that that same Captain of the host of the Lord was not a hundred yards from him, the same Captain. While he was thinking on those things...

It's usually when you think about the Lord... It's usually when you got your mind not on something else, the things of the world; or how you're going to make a lot of money, or what kind of a big organization you're going to build... That's what's the matter with the world today. We got our mind on the things of the world instead of on God.

Let's think about God. The Bible says, "If there be any praise, there be any virtue, think on these things." Our mind strolls off. And first thing you know, we strayed out in there somewhere, we're thinking about something else. Let's keep Jesus on my heart, in my mind all day long, day and night. That's the way.

61–0124 – Blind Bartimaeus

The Bible said, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things." I think the reason we don't see no more of it than we do, we got our minds on too many other things. I think the Angels would still appear to us if we only kept our minds upon them

14 And it was the next morning as she was going along for the water, and she could hear the hammer across the way, where the saw... where Joseph was building on their house. And as she got up and had her breakfast, and stuck the little pitcher under her arm, and started down to the city public well... (Now, if we had time I'd like to dwell on that well for a while, but we don't have the time.) So as she was going along with her

head down, thinking, she couldn't get it off her mind... And she said, "That remark that Joseph made to me when stopped him on that Scripture of Isaiah 9:6, and how that... He, he said to me, 'Dear, you know, I think you... always thought you was the most beautiful woman I ever seen, but somehow in the last few minutes you've been more beautiful than ever. Your big brown eyes sparkle, and just when we mentioned this

Scripture. Did it thrill you? Or what taken place?"

Well, she wondered, "What was that when he said, a child is born, a Son is given. '? Wonder what made me feel the way I did?" And just then, as the little maiden was walking, she noticed something flicker. And she looked around, and... "It must have been the sun," she said, "that shined against a rock up on the desert hill there

somewhere." And as she went on about her way, thinking about what was taking place, and what they had been talking about, she turned a corner that goes up to the city well, where the ladies meet out there early of a morning and let their buckets down, or their crocks-more like a crock or a jug. They got a long neck, two handles. They had a hook they hooked under it, and a windle. They let the jug down. It being made out of

clay, why, it sank. They'd windle the water back up, then set it up on top their heads, and walk right on back home; and maybe holding five or six gallons of water, enough for the day—unless they were washing, and then usually they went to the places to wash.

15 Now, as she turned the corner she seen that Light flicker again. And as she looked, when she had to pass through a little narrow place, where just one person could pass, there stood Gabriel, the Archangel. It wasn't the sun, the s-u-n, she seen reflecting. He was following her, and He met her, to where He got her in a place where she'd have to look to Him. And she looked, and He was all of a glow of light around Him. Frightened the little virgin, and no doubt she grabbed her water pot, and those big eyes stared out and looked at the Archangel.

He said, "Hail, Mary (or stop), you're highly favored before God." Oh, I like that. That little woman in the meanest city there was in the world at that time, known the meanest city, anyhow, in Palestine... And in there she had lived such a life until God chose her for a certain work that He was going to do. There she looked into His face, and it startled her.

16 You know, it's usually as we are thinking on those things... The Bible said, "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things." I think the reason we don't see no more of it than we do, we got our minds on too many other things. I think the Angels would still appear to us if we only kept our minds upon them: but we're thinking about something else, that's where we're going, a certain program we've got to look at,

or certain shopping we got to do. But our Scriptures tells us, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these other things will be added unto you."

And there then when we see that, that He said, "Thou are highly favored before God."

17 And we notice again... I don't want to leave this Scripture, but it was Cleopas and his friend on the read to

Emmaus, as they were going along there, brokenhearted, speaking about Jesus being crucified and dead, and the stories that they'd heard about Him being raised from the dead, and they didn't believe it... On the road going overgoing back to, maybe, go to work on Monday morning, on the road back, it was while they were thinking of Him that He appeared to them, stepped out of the bushes and begin to

talk to them just like an ordinary man.

He said, "Oh, why are you so weary? What's wrong with you?"

They said, "Are you just a stranger here?"

Do you believe now? This is kind of sticky, but people who had walked with Him, and talked with Him, and walked all day with Him after His resurrection, the same Jesus, and didn't know Him... He will reveal Himself to whosoever

He will reveal. Oh, I pray tonight that He will take the shades from every one of our eyes and will come into this building and reveal Himself in the power of His resurrection, that every person might see Him: the sinner as their Saviour, the sick as their Healer.

And we notice that He walked with them all day. And then He made out like He was going somewhere else or going on by, and they

constrained Him to come in. Oh, I like that—constraining Him to come in," Oh, Jesus, You're here in the church tonight. You must go home with me. I want to take You to my home. I never want to lose this feeling of Your Presence. Let me take You home, and come in and abide with me." Never want to lose that feeling. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

61-0121 - Mary's Belief

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38 Notice, then he thought, "This very rock that I'm sitting on, once was on top of the wall. And that mighty army of Israel marched around this wall thirteen times and sounded a trumpet, and when it did, the God of heaven shook the walls to the ground. And I'm setting on the rock. What if I'd have

been here when Joshua was here. I'd have run to him and say, 'Oh, prophet of God, be merciful to me.' But the days of miracles is past, the priest said. We don't have them no more. Them was way back in the days of Moses and Joshua, and back in those days. We don't have it today." They think the same thing today, but it isn't SO.

"Then, I noticed again," he thought, "Oh well, you know, when Joshua was out strolling, that great commander and chief and a great warrior, one day he was walking before he besieged this great Jericho. And as he was walking, he saw a Man standing with His sword drawed. Joshua drew his sword and he said, 'Are you for us? Are you for our enemy?'"

And this great Warrior standing there with a sword in His hand, said, "No. I'm the Captain of the host of the Lord." Joshua jerked his helmet off and fell at His feet.

39 Oh, blind Bartimaeus would've said, "If I could've only

been there then." Little did he know that that same Captain of the host of the Lord wasn't a hundred yards from him.

God lets you think on things, study about it. It's what you come to church for. "If there be any praise, if there be any virtue, think on these things." What are you thinking about tonight? "Maybe I won't get healed. I'll go back home." You'll get what you're thinking about.

Have it determined in your heart that God will do it, and

God will do it. Don't pack your sin back home; don't pack your unbelief. Don't pack your disease.

Like the man here last night in the wheelchair and the different ones, you don't have to pack it back home. God will take you out of it, if you'll believe He still remains the same God. Think of it while you're setting there.

58-0524 - Jesus Of Nazareth Passeth By

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As They Were Speaking About Him, That's When He Appeared To Them