

# Thought Control

## By Jim Rose

Jim Rose:

We use cordless mics in the Church I'm involved with. And one Sunday morning I sat down. They're always supposed to turn the mics off, you know, you hear the horror stories about the guy who went to the restroom with his mic on, and they never turned it off and all those good things. Well, I sat down down and I was sitting there, and I have sinus. Boy, sometimes, Dallas, if you don't have sinus when you come to Dallas, you will when you leave. And so I'm sitting there and I had to blow my nose. So I get out my anxious, and all of a sudden over all the PA system here.

We fired those guys, but it didn't help much. Besides looking into God's word, I want us to have a relaxed time. I want this to be a good time for you. And I'm going to be here all week. And anytime you want to come up and kick around something, we'll sure do it. I don't know if we'll have any answers, but we can sure talk about it. The other thing, I've been talking to Jan, she's been a delight. And we've been talking about backgrounds.

Just to share a bit about mine, I'm not in College any longer. Well, that's not true either. I'm hacking away slowly at a PhD program, and I can feel with your own homework assignments. I got into this thing, and I didn't know what it would be like. I really enjoyed it. But I found out when I got a weekly assignment that was longer than my master's thesis when I was getting my master's. And so I realized that maybe I didn't want to take too many courses at one time. And so it's been a fun thing, but I'm not in it that much. I do have two sons. One is in College at Baylor, and then I have one who is in the process of preparing to go. He's a senior in high school.

So my college experience is now vicarious. And in being on campuses like this, one of the things that's really impressed me being here has been you. In the last year and a half, I guess I've been on four or five campuses, and I've got to say that this has been the most impressive student body on a Christian campus I've run into, and I thank God that I can be here with you. We'll look for great things from you out in the future. We're looking at mind wars this week. We want to do it more as a Bible study. And again, if you have questions afterwards, please come up and ask them.

And one of those delightful stories by George MacDonald, the English author who meant so much to C. S. Lewis and Tolkien and Chesterton and all of those people there is the account of two ladies walking down a road in one of the little villages in England of which they have so many. As they're walking down the road. The one younger lady is obviously torn up. She has just gone through a terrible tragedy in her life. She's sort of downcast and bitterly, as only the English can put it. She says, I wish I'd never been made. Their friend stopped her and just looked at her for a moment and she said, you haven't been made. You're being made, but you aren't made yet. That's the master's process.

She touched on something that touches on you and touches on me this morning. We are people in process, and that's a tremendous thing. At least it is for me, because there are times in my life if this had been the end product, it would have been sad bananas. We are all in process, though. We are all becoming something. The question is what. And what determines what we are going to become doesn't begin with what we do. It begins with what we think. It was Ralph Waldo

Emerson who said a person is what he or she thinks about all day long. And that's true. That's also a little scary in this particular time in history when we have more pressure on our mental faculties than any generation since God dropped Adam and Eve into the garden.

The problem we face in the area of thinking is that it is going to determine the shape of our living. And what I think it is important that we understand is that this process is either going to be controlled by the master the Englishwoman spoke of or by the dark lord Satan himself. You see, mind control is not a question of if, but who. Who is going to run our mind. Now, you may be sitting here thinking, of course, in a Christian college, I would expect we're supposed to have the party line. Oh, Christ controls my mind. Well, I hope that's true. Sometimes he does mine, sometimes he doesn't.

But what I want us to understand is somebody's in control, and it's not some inert impersonal force. It is a very definite person with great intelligence, and it is either Satan or the Savior. One or the other of these, one a created being, the other the Creator is correcting and directing your thinking and mine. Nobody knew this better than the pint-sized Apostle. Paul knew, in fact, I was just talking with Louis about Greek. He says he's going to be majoring in that. And we were alluding to the fact that Paul quotes so many of the Greek writers of his time, the philosophers, the literary giants. He was a man of great brilliance, and he understood very early in his Christian life that if he was going to plant Christianity in the empire, Christ would have to be planted firmly in the middle of his thinking. And that's true with us.

If we are going to see our life proceed in a way that not only is fulfilling to us, but more important, is fulfilling what God wants for us, then Christ is going to have to control. Paul makes this very clear in a passage that we all know by heart if we've been in BMA or NAV memory or whatever, we've memorized this passage. It's one of the ones the speakers always speak on, but I want to come to it and look at it a little differently today. It's Romans 12:1 and 2. I know when I was in seminary, I thought if I heard another message on Romans 12:1 and 2, I was going to get up and throw up in the middle of the auditorium and walk out. Well, if you're going to throw up, go ahead and get it over with, and then we'll go on. I hope you won't.

He says, I urge you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies, a living and Holy sacrifice acceptable to God which is your spiritual service of worship. Paul begins by asking for a presentation, and of course, as you know, the book of Romans for eleven chapters, he's been building a case for doing this. He's telling them why you ought to be willing to say, okay, God, here I am. For eleven chapters, he's been talking about the mercies of God and the grace of God. Here's a God who loves us like crazy. As he says in chapter 8, he loved us so much, he gave everything he had his own son for us. And he says, how shall he not do all good things for us?

And just as Ron Klein said this morning, we have to decide, is God really going to do good things for us? Is he really for our best interest or is he out there, really he's got it in for us, and he's finally going to get us. Paul says, he's for our good. He's given us mercy, and therefore he says, let's present ourselves. But when he says this, he immediately jumps to the other end. He says, Let us present our bodies this, our sarx, our flesh, our soma, what we are. Let us present

Rose: Thought Control

that to God. And what he's doing, he's starting at the beginning of the process and he jumps over at the end product.

Giving my body to God is the end product. Now we see people do that. You do, too. One of the pleasures, Phyllis Anne and I, that my wife have had has been going and speaking to missionaries, and some of the places we've been have been the last word and awfulness. I mean, you wouldn't want to live there unless God wrote you a letter and then sent a videotape with it. We were in Indonesia two years ago, and it looks like we're going to be going back, but fortunately, we only have to stay two weeks. They live there. Well, I want to tell you, Irian Jaya in Indonesia is where you give your body every day. It's a big deal if you make it the next week. They lose people all the time. They got mosquitoes. They're so big. They carry the cars away and it's terrible.

We were with one missionary, a gal, a Japanese gal, by the way, Wickliffe is who we were with when we were out there. And they draw people from all over the place. And they have a number of people from Japan, the Tokyo area. This gal happened to be from Hokkaido. She's a missionary, has come to Indonesia, and she and her partner live in a village that has a river running down the middle of and it goes right into the ocean and they have to go back and forth across this river. The only problem is this river has these ocean going crocodiles. I mean, these are big dudes, 17, 18 foot. And they love people. They think people are just marvelous. They had lost 30 people. We were there in August. They had lost 30 people in the village since Christmas, and they'd had a good year and they had to cross this thing. Well, that's the end of the process.

Well, Paul is not expecting us this morning to jump from present to Irian Jaya. Hiroko has done it. That's God's place for us. If God calls you to be a businessman or a businesswoman or a wife or whatever, a career person, whatever in downtown Burbank or Oakland, that would really be, I guess, almost as bad as Irian Jaya. But anyway, wherever sorry, if you're from Oakland.

Wherever, that's the end of the process. But giving our body is the other end of it. Giving our flesh, as Job said or Satan said to God, a man will give everything for his flesh. You'll try to hold on to me.

And of course, we live in a society that's well geared for this. We live in a society that says you don't want to sacrifice yourself, you want to serve yourself. We live in a time of tremendous self-interest. The time of the 70s, we are told, was the Me generation. The time of the 80s is going to be the we. And that sounds good until we realize the we is my little group. I'm not just interested in me now. I'm interested in a few other people that I like and we're going to get together and we're going to take the rest of the world and tell them to go to hell in a handbasket. And that is exactly what's happening.

And so in this situation, this kind of world where people really don't care about what's going on. They really don't care about others. The Apostle comes and he asks us to do this. He says, I want you to present yourself a living sacrifice. Now, that's very hard. It's impossible, as we said yesterday, for a non-Christian to do that. You can't do it as a non-Christian. You'll never do it as a non-Christian, because everything says, take care of me and mine. But it's also hard as a Christian. Our technological age has done a real number on us. It has done a real thing to us. It has convinced us that the best things in life are what we get.

I live in suburbia in Northern Dallas, and we get all kinds of magazines. We get three magazines that all come that to present the very best things you can buy for you. We also are sent now and then Self. That's a nice magazine. It says, take care of yourself. We are told that we must satisfy ourselves in this generation and this is totally contrary to the word of God. And that says everybody else can literally go into the presence of Satan. We can forget them. We've just got to take care of ourselves. So that's what we're fighting. We are fighting a time that concertedly is opposed to what God asked of us.

Paul says, present yourself. But where does he start this? If you look at the latter part of the verse, he says, which is your spiritual service of worship? This is a terrible translation in the New American Standard. I love the New American Standard, but I don't know why they translated it this way. Literally, it says in the Greek text, this is your logikon. Your logical service of worship. That is, this is the logical thing to do when he goes to the mind. This starts in the mind. This presentation of saying, I am not going to tell people that they're going to have to serve me. I am not going to live for what I can get and the rest of the world can just leave.

Instead, I am going to live to sacrifice myself for others, first to see them become Christians and then to help them grow in their Christian life. It starts in our head, not with our hands. Present, he says, and this is a mental thing. Now, of course, as we said yesterday, we have the new mind for it. Christ has given us a new mind. We have the mind of Christ, and that lets us think differently. This new mind doesn't work with the junk that's thrown out by the system of society around us. It works on the word of God.

And this new mind gives us the ability to make this decision in life, to present ourselves. Now that's the next thing we need to understand. Paul is calling for a decision. And there is something that is very important for you and for me in our understanding. Life is made up of decisions, mental decisions. The decisions we make are going to be determined by the one that controls us, either Jesus Christ or our enemy, the devil. But life is made up of what we decide. Paul is saying to decide. And by the way, as Lindsey says on this, Paul is not commanding we do this. He's encouraging us to do it. He's saying, make a decision.

We see decisions in the Bible, and we see their effect. One of the most famous decisions was made by a very viral and exciting man, at least from the human perspective. His name was Esau. You remember Esau and Jacob, the two sons of Isaac, Yitsak. Remember Esau and Jacob? If you looked at the two of them, you tend to like Esau. Esau was a man of the fields. Jacob is home tied to mother's apron strings. Jacob cooks at home in the kitchen with mommy. That doesn't impress me. I like old Esau. He's out there cutting a trail through life. But you'll remember what it says in Genesis 25. One day Esau comes in from the field. He's hot and tired. He had been out hunting. I don't know what he was hunting, but he'd been out doing that.

And Jacob's at home practicing the culinary arts with mother, and he walks in and he says, give me some of that red stew. Jacob is sharp as a tack. Jacob says, I'll do it if you'll sell me your birthright. Now, the birthright had nothing to do with money. It had to do with the spiritual heritage to be the priest of the family. In other words, you would be the one who would be the leader priest in the family. And Jacob says a very interesting thing. He makes a decision in that



moment, under the pressure of what's around him, of his stomach, of wanting to feed it. He makes a decision. It means nothing to me. He says, give it to me. And he sold his birthright.

The book of Hebrews 12th chapter, the 16th verse goes on to tell us the end of this decision. It says that Jacob or that Esau was a profane man that he sold his birthright. And to paraphrase it later, he looked for a point at which to repent. That is to change what he had done, but he could not find it with tears. In other words, he had made a decision in his life, and now that decision was making his life. We make our decisions and our decisions make us. You're going to make decisions this week. You're going to make decisions this year. You're going to make small ones. You're going to make big ones. I am.

And it's usually the small decisions that gather together and make the big decisions on our lives. Esau made a terrible decision, and it ruined him. Paul says, make a good decision. Be instead like a Joshua who constantly, though he was a man who did not nearly have the intellect of Moses or the drive or leadership ability, decided to serve God. And finally, we see Joshua at the end of his life. And when he comes to the end of his life, he declares his decision. And it's the right when he says it's for me and my house. Joshua 24. We will serve the Lord.

So the first thing Paul wants us to do is make a decision, a mental decision, if we are going to have our mind controlled by Christ and not by the keeper of hell. But that's a problem in itself, isn't it? We love to make decisions. We love to present ourselves. The other day I was going through an old Scofield Bible I had and it's in shambles and pieces and a card fell out. And it was a decision card I had signed in Connecticut back in about 1960. And I looked at that and I signed

this card and I decided. You know I decided to change the world that day. I was going to do this. I was going to do that. I was going to commit my. Everything that was on that card if that had happened. Well, I believe Christ is going to bring it in, but we would have had the golden age right here in America if I'd have done all the things on that card.

The problem with my decision was I didn't follow through on it. I presented myself and followed through a little bit, but I didn't go far enough. And that brings us to two things. First, we make many presentations along the way. Every time we come to a new fork in the road, it calls for a new Romans 12. To think it through and say, where am I going? It may be in a relationship. It may be about life's goals. It may be about a small thing about whether I'm really going to get involved in this thing or I'm going to stay away from it. It may be as small as deciding whether I'm going to watch this TV show or go to this movie or can I afford to put that particular stuff into my head?

It may be that simple, but it's going to call for a decision, a presentation. But the problem is we often make presentations of ourselves and it stops there, and it makes us feel good spiritually. In the Church I pastor, we have all kinds of people, as in every Church, the great strength of a Church is its diversity. It is also its great weakness. And we have all kinds of people out there, and there are people I can point them out to you now that I've been there nine years, who will come up after a message that's particularly God has moved. And some you feel like the only thing that moved was you. Sometimes God moves, but they'll come up and say, oh, pastor, oh, God spoke to me today tears and the whole bet.

Rose: Thought Control

And I used to believe that they were really going to change. They don't. They go out and do the very same thing they've done for 28 years. The problem is they have made a presentation, but that's the end of it. They want to feel good religiously. And one of the great problems within evangelical Christianity is we can substitute emotion for action. And there's a lot of that going on. Presentation has to be followed with the next thing Paul picks up. And that is what we find in verse 2. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

We're going to look at transformation. But first Paul says before we do this, transformation is the process. Presentation is stepping into it. Transformation is how we make the presentation a reality and how we get to giving our body. Now, the problem, of course, is that we are being counter-pressured, we are being conformed. There is tremendous pressure to conform us. And remember, it is on our mind. We're going to see that very clearly in this passage.

What generation has ever had the kind of pressure we have to conform us to this system? And I want to say this world system. Now we use that term, world as it's sort of a catch all for anything we don't like. And that's worldly, I don't think that's right. Well, it may or may not be.

Worldliness is basically living as if God didn't exist. And we can have a worldly marriage which appears to be very good. We can have a worldly this or a worldly that. The cosmos, that system that John and Paul described is the system that really forgets there's a God and says, I'm going to plan my own life.

Speaker 2:

Please turn the tape, decide to for the continuation of this session.

You can have a worldly this or a worldly that. The cosmos, that system that John and Paul describe is the system that really forgets there's a God and says, I'm going to plan my own life. I'm going to do it my way. There are tremendous problems with it, but that's the point. But that's the system that's trying to conform us. Now they're trying to conform us. It is trying to conform us. He is trying to conform us with all kinds of things. Again, the media is one of the things we are struggling with. I haven't gotten over color television yet. I love it, but I always want to look behind the set. I'm an engineer. I'm technically trained. I want to see what's happening back there. How do they do that?

It's marvelous. Now we're working on three dimensional television. We'll have it. In our high school rap room, they have a big screen television and we have all this stuff. But the problem is not the media, it's what comes through it. Wilson Key, who is an expert in advertising, has said that the average American is deluged with 500 advertising messages a day. Now, that in itself is something to be concerned about because advertising usually is not trying to prick your spiritual interest. The advertisers are not trying to bring out the best in you.

My best friend is an advertising exec in New York, Tommy Dunkerton. He's the senior vice President of Compton. They have General Mills. They have most of General Motors. That's not too bad. He told me. He said in advertising, you go for the glands, you go for desire, not deliberation. In other words, we are bombarded to be conformed, to want to do. Hey, you've got to have an XK Jag or you've got to have a Porsche. That's what my son thinks. He's bought that.

He's a freshman in college and he is convinced that he's not going to live another year if he doesn't have a Porsche. Well, he may die because he's not going to have a Porsche. But he's convinced. He has bought the line.

And these things come on and we get the magazines and it says, you owe it to yourself to have this. Give yourself a break today or get away from it all or whatever. Now, in themselves, these are not wrong, except what they're asking you to do can cause us to develop a way of thinking that I deserve a break every time I stand up. It's what I want. And that's the kind of thing we are facing. Cardinal Demit, who put together most of the BBC, said one time that most of the effects of television are unconsciously gained. His whole point was people are drawn into a consumer attitude of life. Television develops a consumer mentality by by by. I'm not knocking television.

I like some of it. What I'm saying is we have to control it or it will control us. And when it controls us, the other side, reading can do the same thing. There's a third thing that can really control us. And I think I need to say a word about it today. And that's sports. Now, if we were talking in 1800 or 1900, we'd pick up different illustrations to understand it. The other day we have a number of athletes that go to the church I'm involved with. Many of them are members of the once great Dallas Cowboys who decided to resign from life at the end of the season this year. But in talking with them and talking to others, there is a concern. And one of the leaders of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in our area said last year to me said. You know, the FCA must speak out against the idolization of sports in America. It is deadening the Christians.

Well, just think about it. How many of you watched a game on New Year's Day? Anybody watch a game? Raise your hand. I want to ask you how many watch more than one? Two? I want to prompt you. There's somebody who's an honest man out there. You bet. I tell you, if we watch two, three, four games in a weekend and you can do that, our brain cells are wrapped in pig skin and there is no way to thank the thoughts of God. Now, football is not bad. I love football. I was telling Jen that's how I went to school. But I want to tell you, sports can do in our day what it finally did by design in Rome at the end of the Republic and in the empire. It can isolate us. It can take our thinking away from God. It can allow the old mind that we talked about yesterday, the mind of the flesh, to push out the mind of the spirit and take control of our hearts, so that we are being conformed and not transformed.

And it comes in the little things, the moment by moment, things that we face. Paul says, don't let that happen. Instead, be transformed. And do what? Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Now, transformation is something that we see vividly in the scripture. It means to become on the outside what you are on the inside. And that's an interesting thing. The real you is made in the image of Christ, the real me. I am a new person. You are a new person in Christ. And Paul says, Let that transformation, let what you are on the inside be growing up so you will be on the outside the same thing.

We see this vividly illustrated up in Northern Israel, up in the area north of the Hula Basin, up on a mountain called Hermon, El Sheikh. A mountain that has snow patches on it year round as snowcapped in the winter. It was up on that mountain that Jesus went with the big three, Peter, James and John. And up on that mountain as he was there, remember, the scripture says, he was

transfigured. He was more metamorphed before them. What he was on the inside showed through, and all of a sudden they saw the God man. His glory shone. Paul said, Let that happen to you. But he says, Let it happen first by the renewing of your mind. Remember the mind of the Spirit he talks about in it in 8 the new mind that we have. Let that be where it starts.

Now, when he says renew, he does not mean remaking what is old. Rather, he is looking at empowering what you have. And that brings us to the first step in being sure that the control of our mind is with Christ and not with the enemy. And that first step is to be depending on God's spirit as Prophet Hendricks said yesterday, as we talked about with Moses saying, God, I depend on you, Lord Jesus, that your spirit live through me and it begins with the mind that you empower my mind. That is to be a conscious thought. That only makes sense because Christ told his disciples, the Spirit will come and he will guide you into all truth. How? Not with your hands. First with your head.

And so we let the Spirit of God empower our minds. We depend on that. It's amazing we go to Ephesians, chapter 6. And what do we have? The helmet of Salvation. In other words, we are to keep in our mind first that we're a new person in Christ, but we're getting blown all over the field on this one. Christians are losing the war in their mind.

I want to read you something Jimmy Williams said. If I brought it, I think I did. Jimmy Williams is the President of a Christian think tank in Dallas called Probe Ministries. Jimmy is an SMU grad, a brilliant young man, and he has done a lot of thinking in this area. He says this. The struggle for people's minds still continues all around us. A tremendous clash of worldviews

presently take its major form in the United States and the struggle between secular humanism and a Christian view of life. Now that struggle is against us primarily because we are the ones that hold the Christian view of life. And unless we know that, that the struggle is here, that it's in our thinking, we're going to lose.

I'm going to mention Elton True Blood in a minute. But one of the things that Dr. True Blood has impressed on me is we have to outthink the opposition. If we get anything out of these times together, if we get out the fact that we need to be Christians who let the mind of Christ be our mind, let Christ control our thinking, and that we begin to think Christianly, then this will have been a tremendous success.

And he says, be conformed or be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Now when that happens, and we'll look at the other two steps in a moment, first, there is depending on the Spirit. When that happens, though, an amazing thing happens that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. We have 54,000 books on the will of God. I mean, how do you know the will of God? Boy, there are all kinds of ways. Now, let me say God can come to you and appear to you in a vision if he chooses to do that. He hasn't done that to me yet. There have been times, three times in my life when everything that this passage would bring said, go this way, and God said, no, you're going to go over here.

But that's unusual. The will of God is not generally something mystical. Over New Year's weekend, I was speaking at a conference and Gary Freisen was at the conference who wrote The Will of God. It's an excellent book. We're talking about this issue, and the whole issue is that the



will of God 99.9% of the time is known by a person who has a renewed mind. We can look at life and we can know because this renewed mind, which first is empowered by the Spirit, is able to look at life and tell us where we're to go. It can tell us what is good and acceptable, what is good would be what is morally beautiful, that which is going to bring benefit to the work of God and to the people around us.

What is acceptable is that which is morally pure, and what is perfect is that which is complete. That's going to be what God wants for our life, that which brings completion. Now that renewed mind which is empowered by the Spirit, when it is controlled by Christ, can show us God's will when first it is empowered by the Spirit. But when secondly, we're building the grid of the word of God that we talked about yesterday. See, that's what I have to feed my mind, and we're always feeding our mind something. By the way, does anybody know how much we can see with our eyes and that goes immediately to our brain which our mind picks up?

Do you know how many bits of information you can see just looking? It's somewhere between 1.5 and 1.6 million bits of information. Your eye can pick up at a single glance. Do you understand what that means? We're always picking up. We're always assimilating. And the question is, what? Well, he says, the scripture says, as we saw yesterday, let us be putting this into our minds. Now to face this life and to have a renewed mind and not be controlled by the enemy today, it's going to take more than a snatch of Bible study early in the morning or late at night or between classes crammed in or at halftime.

It's going to take more than that. It's going to take spending some time and I don't know any other way to do it, but to do it. It's going to take spending some time where we are letting God communicate to us through the Scriptures. I'm all for Christian books. I think they're wonderful, but we have to spend time in this. If we don't, we're not feeding our mind, and it really has a new mind has nothing to work with. But if we do, then we're going to be able to look at life. Now, there is not an answer to every specific problem we face in the Bible.

Abraham Lincoln once said that most of my decisions aren't black or white, they're gray. And I find that's true with me. But I have found out something else, that people who have developed a grid of the word of God and are controlled by the Spirit of God in their mind, that mind control for them as Christ are able to look at life and come up with amazingly clear decisions. Well, it's been a little while ago now. I got to go to a small conference. There were ten of us. We were at Earlham College up in Richmond, Indiana.

Erlem College is the place that Dr. Elton Trueblood taught for many years, and he still lives there. And we went up there for a conference to interact on lay ministries. And Elizabeth Elliott was there and I got to sit next to Dr. Trueblood. That was a wonderful experience there in his office. And he's an amazing man. You know, about a guy who has a mindset of Christ. The mindset of Christ, as we're going to find out in our next session, is basically to give ourselves. To be a servant.

I arrived at the campus. I was the first one there. I pulled in in the rental car, and I'm wandering around trying to find out where I should go. And finally I found out from the guard at the gate

that this building over here. And I went and I got in my room, and all of a sudden I see this guy tromping up with towels and soap for me. He said, came up, he gave them to me, and he says, Is there anything else I can get you? I said, no, thank you. This is great. I didn't know who he was. I thought he was a janitor or something. I didn't know until that afternoon when I sat down with Elton Trueblood.

I want to tell you, we have not produced a Christian philosopher, with the exception of Francis Schaeffer in the last 200 years, like Trueblood, but he's a servant. But as we sat in that conference, the thing that fascinated with me, with him and Elizabeth Elliott, was that when we'd come up with these nitty problems about lay ministry, they would invariably go back to the Scriptures and look at them and talk about them, and then they would come out with these answers you would have thought heaven spoke because it had.

And you knew you had somebody whose mind was directed by Christ. I've never been so impressed. And I left that thing. I remember climbing on the airplane thinking, I want to be like that. That's where I want to be at 82. I want to be a person whose mind has the grit of the word of God, who's controlled by the spirit of God, so I see life in its realities. They saw it, and that's what God desires for you. Mind control it's not if it's who, and if it's Christ, we're going to begin to see more and more and more. If not, we're going to see less and less and less.

Just because we're Christians does not mean we're going to make Christian decisions. It's going to be having the mindset of Christ. That has always been the mark of Christianity. And I trust it will become that again, thinking people who think God's way. You know the fascinating thing to

Rose: Thought Control

me is that when Christianity has moved with vigor, it has always been a very intelligent move.

When the Pilgrims or the Puritans, the Pilgrims were just part of them came to this country in the 1600s, the 1700s, and they left England. 80% of the College graduates left England.

They were thinkers, but they thought God's way. As Professor Hendricks mentioned the other morning, the early Roman Empire knew that. They knew Christians were thinkers and Ibsen in his play on Julian the Apostate, puts in Emperor Julian's mouth these words, Christianity, Christianity it is burying us. These Christians are people whose minds have been taken captive by the witchcraft of Christ. I would to God that for you and for me people would look at us and say their minds have been taken captive by Christ.

Let's pray, Father, it's so easy in this time and I am the first one to get involved with this to be pulled off mentally into so many other things. I like so many things that are absolutely useless in helping me think your thoughts. But I would ask for myself and for my brothers and sisters that together we might recognize that presenting ourselves and then being transformed is first that what you do in our mind, our new mind. That we would be depending on your spirit to enlighten our minds. We would be feeding our minds with your word and then, Lord out of that we would be living in your way. Lord, let the mind controlled in our life be in the hand of your son. We ask in his name. Amen.