

SELF DECEPTION

2nd Corinthians 13:12 - For now I see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

Doing Things your way/with your Resources or Resting in Faith & Trusting God as Source

Not long ago, may 10 to 15 years back, science use to believe that once you reached 5 years old your brain was hard wired and would remain with those personality traits for life. However, science now knows what God has known all along, it is called neuroplasticity, and it means the brain is able to rewire itself as we change our beliefs and lifestyles. When new truths are learned it cause chemical, neural, and physical changes in our mind and body (see the Brain that changes itself, the Biology of Belief, A Counselor's guide to Neuroscience, Transform Your Beliefs, Transform Your Life, and the list goes on, etc.) That means the mind, if programed with lies, abuse, shame, etc. while you were growing up created what you believed about yourself (As a man thinks in his heart, so is he – Proverbs 23:7); But have hope and faith, as you know the real truth and follow Him (John 8:31-32), God can transform your mind, body, emotions, spirit, behaviors, relationships for the better (Isaiah 55:8-11).

In this fallen world, a lot of Mental Disorders and Emotional Distress is caused by Rebellion against God or lack of knowledge of His Word (Hosea 4:6 /Job 36:12 / Isaiah 5:13) - in bondage to sin, by people living and walking in in the flesh versus walking in the Spirit (Acts 17:28). Trying to beat God's laws is ludicrous and only causes internal dissonance, fear, (2nd Timothy 1:7), emotional, mental, spiritual, relational (wrong behaviors, beliefs, feelings, words, etc.) and physical illness.

REBELLION VERSUS OBEDIENCE

Genesis 1 - God spoke the world into existence. By His sovereign command the laws of the universe were set in motion. Besides such laws as Physics, Gravity, and etc. God also set fleshly laws - *First Covenant* - (*Law of Moses/10 Commandments*) & (*law of sin and death*) and spiritual laws - *second or new covenant* (*law of the spirit*) (*law of life*) into place. *Galatians 6:7-8* **Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.** A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life (*Deuteronomy 30:15-20*). **Genesis 2:17** - "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**"

Romans 8:2 For in Christ Jesus the **law of the Spirit** of life has set you free from the law of sin and death.

Hebrews 11: 3 By faith we understand that *the worlds were framed by the word of God*, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

The heart is deceitfully wicked who can know it = unconscious defense and coping mechanisms. *Jeremiah 17:9* - **The heart is deceitful** above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

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It will be done according to your beliefs/faith - Matthew 9:29; Ephesians 3:20; (and there are lots more... check it out in the Bible for yourself).

*Isaiah 1:4-6 - Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evil doers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. 5Why should ye be stricken anymore? **ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.** 6From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrefying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment. (**Rebellion**)*

Psalm 51:5-7 - Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

...5Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom. 7Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow....

*John 8:31-32 - “**If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.**”*

*Proverbs 23:7 - For as he thinks *in his heart*, so is he. “Eat and drink!” he says to you, But his heart is not with you.*

Proverbs 4:23 Guard your heart above all else for out of it comes the issues of life

John 14:6 = I am the truth the way and the life

Proverbs 30:12 deals with the issue of denial, which is basically just a self-deception. “There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness.” They are in denial; they are deceived.

*Proverbs 21:12 - Every **way** of a **man** is **right in his own eyes**: but the LORD ponders the hearts*

Proverbs 3:5-6 / 1st John 1:1-10 / Proverbs 16:1 / Micah 6:8

*Proverbs 14:12 - There is a **way** which seems right unto a **man**, but the end thereof are the **ways** of death. ... The **way** of a fool is **right in his own eyes**, But a wise **man** is he who listens to counsel. Proverbs 16:25 ... This may refer to the blinding effects of passion and self-will; for these make a **man** think his own **way** best and most desirable.*

*Jeremiah 10:23-24 - I know, LORD, that a **man's** way of life is **not his own**; **no** one who walks determines **his own** steps. ... O LORD, I know that **man's** way is **not his own**; **It is not in man** to direct his steps as he walks. He has now attained an insight into the truth that **man's** duty is simply to walk in the **path** which God has marked out for him.*

*Psalm 32:8 - I **will** instruct you and teach you concerning the **path** you should walk; I **will direct** you with my eye.*

*John 4:22-24 - 23But a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in **spirit** and in **truth**, for the Father is seeking such as these to worship Him. 24God is **Spirit**, and His worshipers must worship Him in **spirit** and in **truth**.”*

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Matthew 7:1-5 - Judging Others - “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it.

*Luke 6:42 - How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,' when you yourself fail to see the plank in **your own eye**? You hypocrite, first **take the plank** out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.*

Romans 7 - Freed from the Law (Bride of Christ) Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? **2** For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband. **3** So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. **4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.**

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. **6** But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter. **Sin's Advantage in the Law - 7** What shall we say then? *Is the law sin?* Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “You shall not covet.” **8** But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. *For apart from the law sin was dead.* **9** *I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.* **10** And the commandment, which *was to bring life*, I found to *bring death*.

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*. **12** Therefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

Law Cannot Save from Sin - 13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful. **14** *For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.* **15** *For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.* **16** *If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good.* **17** *But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.* **18** *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.* **19** *For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice.* **20** *Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.*

21 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. **22** For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. **23** But **I see another law in my members**, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into **captivity to the law of sin** which is in my members. **24** O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **25** I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself **serve the law of God**, but with the flesh the law of sin.

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Galatians 5:13-26 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”** **15** But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

Walking in the Spirit

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. **17** For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. **18** *But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, **20** idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **21** envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. **24** And those *who are* Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **26** Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 **15** *“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil,* **16** in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. **17** But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, **18** I announce to you today that *you shall surely (die) perish; (Where have you heard that statement before?)* you shall not prolong *your* days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. **19** *I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;* **20** that you may love the LORD your God, that you may **obey His voice**, and that you may cling to Him, for **He is your life and the length of your days**; and that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them.”

Romans 5:5 / Galatians 4:6-7 / Ezekiel 11:19-20 / Acts 17:28 / Ezekiel 36:26-27

Hebrews 8:10 & 10:16 / Jeremiah 31:31-35 & 32:38-40 / Romans 15:6 / Jeremiah 24:7

Ezekiel 37:14 / Isaiah 59:21 / Jeremiah 2:13 / Judges 17:6 / Hebrews 4:10-13 / Isaiah 29:13

Matthew 15:8(19) / John 14:6 / John 5:18-20 & 8:28 / John 17:1-26 / Matthew 6:21 & 33

Mark 12:30-32 / Matthew 22:36-40 / Luke 10:27

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 / John 15 (all)

Hebrews 12:25-29

Rest in God as The Source: Trust in Him and Live by Faith and His Resources