BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND

Sin has ruined everyone's understanding of God.

We must spend a lifetime trying to correct our distorted view of God.

When Adam sinned against God, he thought God's heart had changed toward him. But it was Adams's heart that changed. God's heart of love toward man never changes. The wages of sin is death, but this death is not a punishment from God. Death is the consequence of sin. God's love has provided a way of escape from sin and its consequences. While we were yet sinners, Christ came and died for us. Romans 5:8 Jesus did not die to change God's heart toward us. Jesus died to change our heart and make us acceptable to God. Jesus was not moving God's wrath from us to Him. Jesus is changing us and moving us out from under the wrath of God. Jesus was not punished nor paying the penalty for our sin. Jesus was paying the price which allows Him to change us and move us out from under the penalty of sin. The price Jesus paid was the full condemnation of sin for killing the sinless perfect Man.

When you obey His commandments, you remain in His love. Remember, God's love does not change. We control the receiving and the release of God's love in us and through us. A casual reading of John 15:10 may cause you to think that God turns off and on His love as you obey His commandments. But this is not true. God's love never changes.

You may think that God's wrath is personal and full of revenge and hatred. You may think that God is irate and out of control because of His wrath toward sinners. But instead, God's wrath is always redemptive, full of mercy, and love.

Only a study of the Bible can transform your distorted view of the true character of God.

Romans 12:2b Be changed, be transformed by the entire renewal of your mind, your knowledge, your attitude so that you may prove what is good and acceptable.

The process of sanctification is beholding the glory of God and being transformed into His likeness.

2 Corinthians 3:18 So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord makes us more and more like Him as we are transformed into His glorious image.

Because you are a child of God, you have the victory no matter what you feel like. God has the power, not we ourselves. 2 Cor. 4:7-9,16

He will never abandon us. We are renewed day by day. Even when you feel like you are losing your grip on life, God is not losing His grip on you.

When you are too exhausted to pray and don't even know what to pray, God is praying for you.

The Holy Spirit is praying for you. Romans 8:26 Jesus is praying for you. Hebrews 7:25 When you realize your weakness, knowing that God must be powerful for you, that is your strength.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

The strength for life's battles is not our own, it comes from God. In your best moments, on your best day, you don't have strength for the battle. God is your strength. Fight in the strength of the Lord, humbly depending on Him by faith.

Your trials and battles are giving you treasures in Heaven. Romans 8:18

When you keep talking to God, praising God, thanking God, and believing God in the middle of your battles, God is being glorified.

STATEMENTS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE CHARACTER OF GOD

God always freely forgives from His heart without any conditions or pay offs.

God's forgiveness <u>received by faith</u> in the heart of the believer has one condition. You control whether you receive forgiveness or not. You must want release from sins' power and believe that Jesus is able and willing to make it happen in you.

Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus is totally sinless.

Jesus did not become sin at the Cross. Jesus became the offering for sin, the sacrifice for sins removal.

Jesus allowed the wrath of sin to fall upon and against Him at the Cross in order to condemn sin.

Sin killed Jesus and condemned itself to removal from all Creation.

God's wrath toward sin and the guilty is never appeased. God never changes.

God moves a person out from under His wrath by changing the heart of the believing person.

Jesus does not hide your sin from God.

There are eternal consequences for your daily sins. We should repent daily and sin less and less.

Your strength for the battles in life must come from God. God is your strength. Fight life's battles in the strength of the Lord.

Jesus is praying for you. The Holy Spirit is praying for you as He dwells within you. Keep talking to God, praising God, thanking God, trusting God, and believing God in the middle of your battles.

OUTLINE: BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND

JESUS DIED TO: CONDEMN SIN TO EXTINCTION Romans 8:3

JESUS AROSE WITH: Authority to take away sin Matthew 28:18

JESUS LIVES IN THE BELIEVER TO:

Change us New Creations

Make us acceptable Good instead of Evil

Renew our minds Correct our view of God Cleanse us from all

Produce good works in usWe take our righteous acts with us to heaven

Move us out from under: The penalty of sin We are changed. Not God.

The wrath of God We are changed. Not God.

WE CONTROL RECEIVING: God's grace Romans 5:17; 10:13 How? Call upon the LORD

Release from sin 1 John 1:9 If we confess, He will release us...

God's love John 15:10 Thrive in God's love. How?

The change in us Romans 12:2b

Keep talking to God, praising God, thanking God, trusting God, and believing God in the middle of your battles. Jesus is praying for you. The Holy Spirit is praying for you.

Correct our distorted view of God.

We think God's heart has changed toward us.

We think death is a punishment from God instead of a consequence of sin.

We think Jesus died to change God's heart. But He died to change our hearts.

We think God's wrath is personal and full of revenge toward our sin. But God's wrath is redemptive, full of mercy, and love.

Romans 8:3 God has done what the Law could not do by sending His Son in human sinless flesh and as an offering for sin's removal, condemned sin to extinction, depriving sin of its power especially over all those who accept His sacrifice. Sin is condemned to extinction because sin killed the sinless Son of God. Jesus arose with authority and power to take away sin.