

WILL OF GOD

It is possible, from the Bible -- especially Paul's Epistles to the Romans -- to discern that there are TWO aspects to the Will of God:

1. **God's Will of Decree** -- aka Decretive Will, or Sovereign Will -- this is the Will that God decrees, i.e., "that which God wills to do, or permits himself" (from Dr. Francis Turretin, *The Will of God*, page 220 v1 -- <http://www.apuritansmind.com/FrancisTurretin/francisturretinwillofgod.htm>).

2. **God's Will of Command** -- aka Will of Precept, or Preceptive Will, i.e., "what He wills that we should do" (adapted from Dr. Francis Turretin, *The Will of God*, page 220 v1 -- <http://www.apuritansmind.com/FrancisTurretin/francisturretinwillofgod.htm>).

"... the former [Sovereign Will; Will of Decree; Decretive Will] **cannot be resisted and is always fulfilled (Rom. 9:19)** ... the latter [Will of Command; Will of Precept; Preceptive Will] **is often violated by men (Mt. 23:27)**" (from Dr. Francis Turretin, *The Will of God*, page 220 v1 -- <http://www.apuritansmind.com/FrancisTurretin/francisturretinwillofgod.htm>)

From the Ministry of John Piper

"What Is The Will Of God And How Do We Know It?" (Adapted) - August 22, 2004

<http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Sermons/ByDate/2004/179>

[What Is the Will of God and How Do We Know It/](#)

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

...

The Two Wills of God

There are two clear and very different meanings for the term “will of God” in the Bible. We need to know them and decide which one is being used here in Romans 12:2. In fact, knowing the difference between these two meanings of “the will of God” is crucial to understanding one of the biggest and most perplexing things in all the Bible, namely, that God is sovereign over all things and yet disapproves of many things. Which means that God disapproves of some of what He ordains to happen. That is, He forbids some of the things He brings about. And He commands some of the things He hinders. Or to put it most paradoxically: God wills some events in one sense that He does not will in another sense.

1. WILL OF DECREE (SOVEREIGN WILL; DECRETIVE WILL)

From Dr. Francis Turretin:

<http://www.apuritansmind.com/FrancisTurretin/francisturretinwillofgod.htm>

“The will of decree may be that which determines the events of things, but the will of precept that which prescribes man his duty. Therefore God can (without contradiction) will as to precept what He does not will as to decree inasmuch as He wills to prescribe something to man, but does not will to effect it (as He willed Pharaoh to release the people, but yet nilled their actual release.) -- **The Will of God** (adapted). page 221 v1

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... consider passages that describe “the will of God” as His sovereign control of all that comes to pass. One of the clearest is the way Jesus spoke of the will of God in Gethsemane when He was praying. He said, in **Matthew 26:39**, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as *You will*.” What does the will of God refer to in this verse? It refers to the sovereign plan of God that will happen in the coming hours. You recall how **Acts 4:27-28** says this: “Truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place.” So the “will of God” was that Jesus die. This was His plan, His decree. There was no changing it, and Jesus bowed and said, “Here’s my request, but You do what is best to do.” That’s the sovereign will of God.

And don’t miss the very crucial point here that it includes the sins of man. Herod, Pilate, the soldiers, the Jewish leaders — they all sinned in fulfilling God’s will that His Son be crucified (**Isaiah 53:10**). So be very clear on this: God wills to come to pass some things that He hates.

Here’s an example from **1 Peter**. In **1 Peter 3:17**, Peter writes, “It is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.” In other words, it may be God’s will that Christians suffer for doing good. Peter has in mind persecution. But persecution of Christians who do not deserve it, is sin. So again, God sometimes wills that events come about that include sin. “It is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will.”

Paul gives a sweeping summary statement of this truth in **Ephesians 1:11**, “In him [Christ] we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works *all things according to the counsel of His will*.” The will of God is God’s sovereign governance of all that comes to pass. And

there are many other passages in the Bible that teach that God's providence over the universe extends to the smallest details of nature and human decisions. Not one sparrow falls to the ground apart from our Father in heaven (**Matthew 10:29**). "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord" (**Proverbs 16:33**). "The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord" (**Proverbs 16:1**). "The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He will" (**Proverbs 21:1**).

That's the first meaning of the will of God: it is God's sovereign control of all things. We will call this His "sovereign will" or His "will of decree." It cannot be broken. It always comes to pass. "He does according to *His will* among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, 'What have you done?'" (Daniel 4:35).

2. WILL OF COMMAND (WILL OF PRECEPT; PRECEPTIVE WILL)

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Now the other meaning for “the will of God” in the Bible is what we can call His “will of command.” His will is what He commands us to do. This is the will of God we can disobey and fail to do. **The will of decree we do whether we believe in it or not. The will of command we can fail to do.** For example, Jesus said, “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven” (**Matthew 7:21**). Not all do the will of His father. He says so. “Not everyone ... will enter the kingdom of heaven.” Why? Because not all do the will of God.

Paul says in **1 Thessalonians 4:3**, “This is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality.” Here we have a very specific instance of what God commands of us: **holiness, sanctification, sexual purity**. This is His will of command. But, oh, so many do not obey.

Then Paul says in **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” There again is a specific aspect of His will of command: **give thanks in all circumstances**. But many do not do this will of God.

One more example: “And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever” (**1 John 2:17**). Not all abide forever. Some do. Some don’t. The difference? **Some do the will of God. Some don’t.** The will of God, in this sense, does not always happen.

So I conclude from these and many other passages of the Bible that there are two ways of talking about the will of God. Both are true, and both are important to understand and believe in. One we can call God’s *will of decree* (or His **sovereign will**) and the other we can call God’s *will of command*. **His will of decree always comes to pass whether we believe in it or not. His will of command can be broken, and is every day.**

The Preciousness of These Truths

Before I relate this to **Romans 12:2** let me comment on how precious these two truths are. Both correspond to a deep need that we all have when we are deeply hurt or experience great loss. On the one hand, we need the assurance that God is in control and therefore is able to work all of my pain and loss together for my good and the good of all who love Him. On the other hand, we need to know that God empathizes with us and does not delight in sin or pain in and of themselves.

These two needs correspond to God's will of decree and His will of command.

For example, if you were badly abused as a child, and someone asks you, "Do you think that was the will of God?" you now have a way to make some biblical sense out of this, and give an answer that doesn't contradict the Bible. You may say, "No it was not God's will; because He commands that humans not be abusive, but love each other. The abuse broke His commandment and therefore moved His heart with anger and grief (**Mark 3:5**). But, in another sense, yes, it was God's will (His sovereign will), because there are a hundred ways He could have stopped it. But for reasons I don't yet fully understand, He didn't."

And corresponding to these two wills are the two things you need in this situation: one is a **God who is strong and sovereign enough** to turn it for good; and the other is a **God who is able to empathize with you**. On the one hand, Christ is a sovereign High King, and nothing happens apart from His will (**Matthew 28:18**). On the other hand, Christ is a merciful High Priest and sympathizes with our weaknesses and pain (**Hebrews 4:15**). The Holy Spirit conquers us and our sins when He wills (**John 1:13; Romans 9:15-16**), and allows Himself to be quenched and grieved and angered when He wills (**Ephesians 4:30; 1 Thessalonians 5:19**). **His sovereign will is invincible, and His will of command can be grievously broken.**

We need both these truths — both these understandings of the will of God — not only to make sense out of the Bible, but to **hold fast to God in suffering**.

Which Will is Referred to in **Romans 12:2**?

Now, which of these is meant in **Romans 12:2**, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is *the will of God*, what is good and acceptable and perfect." The answer surely is that Paul is referring to **God's will of command**. I say this for at least two reasons. One is that **God does not intend for us to know most of his sovereign will ahead of time**. "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us" (**Deuteronomy 29:29**). If you want to know the future details of God's will of decree, you don't want a **renewed mind**, you want a crystal ball. This is not called transformation and obedience; it's called divination, soothsaying.

The other reason I say that the will of God in **Romans 12:2** is God's will of command and not His will of decree is that the phrase "by testing you may discern" implies that we should approve of the will of God and then obediently do it. But in fact we should not approve of sin or do it, even though it is part of God's sovereign will. Paul's meaning in **Romans 12:2** is paraphrased almost exactly in **Hebrews 5:14**, which says, "Solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil." (See another paraphrase in **Philippians 1:9-11**.) That's the goal of this verse: **not ferreting out the secret will of God that He plans to do, but discerning the revealed will of God that we ought to do.**

Three Stages of Knowing and Doing the Revealed Will of God

There are three stages of knowing and doing the revealed will of God, that is, His will of command; and all of them require the renewed mind with its **Holy-Spirit-given discernment** that we talked about last time.

Stage One

First, **God's will of command is revealed with final, decisive authority only in the Bible.** And we need the **renewed mind** to understand and embrace what God commands in the Scripture. **Without the renewed mind, we will distort the Scriptures to avoid their radical commands for self-denial, and love, and purity, and supreme satisfaction in Christ alone. God's authoritative will of command is found only in the Bible.** Paul says that the Scriptures are inspired and make the Christian "competent, equipped for every good work" (**2 Timothy 3:16**). Not just some good works. "Every good work." Oh, what energy and time and devotion Christians should spend meditating on the written Word of God.

Stage Two

The second stage of God's will of command is our application of the biblical truth to new situations that may or may not be explicitly addressed in the Bible. The Bible does not tell you which person to marry, or which car to drive, or whether to own a home, where you take your vacation, what cell-phone plan to buy, or which brand of orange juice to drink. Or a thousand other choices you must make.

What is necessary is that we have a **renewed mind**, that is so shaped and so governed by the revealed will of God in the Bible, that we see and assess all relevant factors with the **mind of Christ**, and discern what God is calling us to do. This is very different from constantly trying to hear God's voice saying do this and do that. People who try to lead their lives by hearing voices are not in sync with **Romans 12:2**.

There is a world of difference between

- TRANSFORMATION -- praying and laboring for a **renewed mind** that discerns how to apply God's Word, on the one hand, and
- DIVINATION -- the habit of asking God to give you new revelation of what to do, on the other hand.

Divination does not require transformation. **God's aim is a new mind, a new way of thinking and judging, not just new information. His aim is that we be transformed, sanctified, freed by the truth of his revealed Word (John 8:32; 17:17).** So the second stage of God's will of command is the discerning application of the Scriptures to new situations in life by means of a **renewed mind**.

Stage Three

Finally, the third stage of God's will of command is the vast majority of living where there is no conscious reflection before we act. I venture to say that a good 95% of your behavior you do not premeditate. That is, most of your thoughts, attitudes, and actions are spontaneous. They are just spillover from what's inside. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak" (**Matthew 12:34-36**).

Why do I call this part of God's will of command? For one reason. Because **God commands things like: Don't be angry. Don't be prideful. Don't covet. Don't be anxious. Don't be jealous. Don't envy.** And none of those actions are premeditated. **Anger, pride, covetousness, anxiety, jealousy, envy —** they all just rise up out of the heart with no conscious reflection or intention. And **we are guilty because of them. They break the commandment of God.**

Is it not plain therefore that there is one great task of the Christian life: **Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.** We need new hearts and new minds. Make the tree good and the fruit will be good (**Matthew 12:33**). That's the great challenge. That is what God calls you to. You can't do it on your own. You need Christ, who died for your sins. And you need the Holy Spirit to lead you into Christ-exalting truth and work in you truth-embracing humility.

Give yourself to this. Immerse yourself in the written Word of God; saturate your mind with it. And pray that the Spirit of Christ would make you so new that the spillover would be good, acceptable, and perfect — the will of God.

From the Ministry of John Piper

"The Renewed Mind And How To Have It" (Adapted) - August 15, 2004

<http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Sermons/ByDate/2004/178>
[The Renewed Mind and How to Have It/](#)

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.
² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

...

“The Will of God”

One, which I hope to deal with next week [August 22, 2004], is the meaning of the term “the will of God.” **Verse 2 [Romans]** says that we are to discern what is “the will of God.” It’s a very common phrase and I think that sometimes, when we use it, we may not know what we are talking about. That is not spiritually healthy. If you get into the habit of using religious language without knowing what you mean by it, you will increasingly become an empty shell. And many alien affections move into empty religious minds which have language but little or wrong content.

The term “the will of God” has at least two and possibly three biblical meanings. First, there is the **sovereign will of God**, that always comes to pass without fail. Second, there is the **revealed will of God** in the Bible — do not steal, do not lie, do not kill, do not covet — and this will of God often does *not* come to pass. And third, there is the **path of wisdom and spontaneous godliness** — wisdom where we consciously apply the word of God with our **renewed minds** to complex moral circumstances, and spontaneous godliness where we live most of our lives without conscious reflection on the hundreds of things we say and do all day. Next week [August 22, 2004], we need to sort this out and ask what Paul is referring to in **Romans 12:2**.

Transformation by the Renewal of Your Mind

But today I want to focus on the phrase in **Romans 12:2**, “by the renewal of your mind.” “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed *by the renewal of your mind*, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” We are perfectly useless as Christ-exalting Christians if all we do is conform to the world around us. And the key to not wasting our lives with this kind of success and prosperity, Paul says, is being

transformed. “Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed.**”

That word is used one time in all the gospels, namely, about Jesus on the mountain of *transfiguration* (the mountain of “transformation” — same word, *metemorphōthē*): “And he was *transfigured* before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light” (**Matthew 17:2-Mark 9:2**).

The Transformation Is Not Just External

I point this out for one reason: to make the point that the *non-conformity* to the world does not primarily mean the external avoidance of worldly behaviors. That’s included. But you can avoid all kinds of worldly behaviors and *not* be transformed. “His face shown like the sun, and his clothes became white as light”! Something like that happens to us spiritually and morally. Mentally, first on the inside, and then, later at the resurrection on the outside. So Jesus says of us, at the resurrection: “Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father” (**Matthew 13:43**).

Transformation is not switching from the to-do list of the flesh to the to-do list of the law. When Paul replaces the list — the works — of the flesh, he does not replace it with the works of the law, but the **fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:19-22)**. The Christian alternative to immoral behaviors is not a new list of moral behaviors. It is the **triumphant power and transformation of the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus Christ — our Savior, our Lord, our Treasure**. “[God] has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life” (**2 Corinthians 3:6**). So **transformation is a profound, blood-bought, Spirit-wrought change from the inside out.**

The Freedom of Being Enslaved to Christ

This is why the Christian life — though it is utterly *submitted* (**Romans 8:7; 10:3**), even *enslaved* (**Romans 6:18, 22**), to the **revealed will of God** — is described in the New Testament as radically *free*. “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (**2 Corinthians 3:17**). “For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery” (**Galatians 5:1**). You are free in Christ, because when you do from the inside what you *love* to do, you are free, if what you *love* to do is what you *ought* to do. And that’s what **transformation** means: **when you are transformed in Christ you love to do what you ought to do. That’s freedom.**

An Essential Means of Transformation: The **Renewal of Your Mind**

And in Romans 12:2 Paul now focuses on one essential means of transformation—“the renewal of your mind.” “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by *the renewal of your mind.*” Oh, how crucial this is!

- **If you long to break loose from conformity to the world,**
- **if you long to be transformed and new from the inside out,**
- **if you long to be free from mere duty-driven Christianity and do what you love to do because what you love to do is what you ought to do,**
- **if you long to offer up your body as a living sacrifice so that your whole life becomes a spiritual act of worship and displays the worth of Christ above the worth of the world,**

then give yourself with all your might to pursuing this — *the renewal of your mind*. Because the Bible says, this is the key to **transformation**. “Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by *the renewal of your mind*.”

What’s wrong with the human mind? Why does our mind need renewing? And what does this renewal look like? And how can we pursue and enjoy this renewal?

The Problem with Our Minds

There are many who think that the only problem with the human mind is that it doesn’t have access to all the knowledge it needs. So education becomes the great instrument of redemption — personal and social. If people just got more education they would not use their minds to invent elaborate scams, and sophisticated terrorist plots, and complex schemes for embezzling, and fast-talking, mentally nimble radio rudeness. If people just got more education!

The Bible has a far more profound analysis of the problem. In **Ephesians 4:23** Paul uses a striking phrase to parallel **Romans 12:2**. He says, **“Be renewed in the spirit of your minds.”** Now what in the world is that? **“The spirit of your mind.”** It means at least this: the human mind is not a sophisticated computer managing data, which it then faithfully presents to the heart for appropriate emotional responses. The mind has a “spirit.” In other words, our mind has what we call a “mindset.” It doesn’t just have a view, it has a viewpoint. It doesn’t just have the power to perceive and detect; it also has a posture, a demeanor, a bearing, an attitude, a bent. “Be renewed in the **spirit** of your mind.”

The problem with our minds is not merely that we are finite, and don’t have all the information. The problem is that **our minds are fallen. They have a spirit, a bent, a mindset that is hostile to the absolute supremacy of God. Our minds are bent on not seeing God as infinitely more worthy of praise than we are, or the things we make or achieve.**

This is what we saw last week [August 8, 2004] in **Romans 1:28**, “Since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind.” This is who we are by nature. **We do not want to see God as worthy of knowing well**

and treasuring above all things. You know this is true about yourself because of **how little effort you expend to know him**, and because of **how much effort it takes to make your mind spend any time getting to know God better**. The Bible says we have “exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man” (**Rom. 1:23**). And **the image in the mirror is the mortal image we worship most**.

The Relationship Between Verses 1 and 2

That’s what’s wrong with our minds. This illumines the relationship between **verses 1 and 2 of Romans 12**. **Verse 1** says that we should present our bodies — that is, our whole active life — as a living sacrifice which is our spiritual service of *worship*. So the aim of all life is worship. That is, we are to use our bodies — our whole lives — to display the worth of God and all that he is for us in Christ. Now it makes perfect sense when **verse 2** says that, in order for that to happen, **our minds must be renewed. Why? Because our minds are not by nature God-worshipping minds. They are by nature self-worshipping minds. That is the spirit of our minds.**

Two Other Biblical Diagnoses of the Problem

Now before I turn to the remedy and how we find the **renewal of mind** God demands, consider two other biblical diagnoses of the problem. Consider the way Peter describes our mind-problem in **1 Peter 1:13-14**, “Prepar[e] ... your *minds* for action. ... Do not be conformed to the passions of your former *ignorance*.” There is an ignorance of God — a willful suppression of the truth of God (**Romans 1:18**) — that makes us slaves to many passions and desires that would lose their power if we knew God as we ought (cf. **1 Thess. 4:5**). “The *passions* of your former *ignorance*.” Paul calls these passions, “desires of deceit” (**Eph. 4:22**). They are life-ruining, worship-destroying desires, and they get their life and their power from the deceit of our minds. There is a kind of knowledge of God — a **renewal of mind** — that transforms us because it liberates us from the deceit and the power of alien passions.

The other biblical diagnosis is in **Ephesians 4:17-18**, “¹⁷You must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their *minds*. ¹⁸They are darkened in their *understanding*, alienated from the life of God because of the *ignorance* that is in them, *due to their hardness of heart*.” Paul takes us deeper than Peter here. He penetrates beneath the “futile mind” and the “darkened understanding” and the willful “ignorance” and says that it is all rooted in “the hardness of their heart.” Here is the deepest disease, infecting everything else. Our mental suppression of liberating truth is rooted in our **hardness of heart. Our hard hearts will not submit to the supremacy of Christ, and therefore our blind minds cannot see the supremacy of Christ** (cf. **John 7:17**).

The Holy Spirit Renews the Mind

Which brings us finally to the remedy and how we obey **Romans 12:2**, “Be transformed in the **renewal of your mind**.” First, before we can do anything, a double action of the Holy Spirit is required. And then we join Him in these two actions. The reason I say the Holy Spirit is required is because this word “renewal” in **Romans 12:2** is only used one other place in all the Greek Bible, namely, **Titus 3:5** where Paul says this: “[God] saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and *renewal of the Holy Spirit*.” There’s the word “renewal” which we’ve seen is so necessary. And it is renewal “of the Holy Spirit.” **The Spirit renews the mind. It is first and decisively His work. We are radically dependent on Him. Our efforts follow His initiatives and enablings.**

The Double Work of the Holy Spirit

Now what is the double work that He must do to **renew our minds** so that all of life becomes worship? **2 Corinthians 3:18** sets the stage for the answer: “And we all, with unveiled face, *beholding the glory of the Lord*, are being **transformed** into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.” **What does the Spirit do to “transform” us into the image of the God-exalting Son of God? He enables us to “behold the glory of the Lord.” This is how the mind is renewed — by steadfastly gazing at the glories of Christ for what they really are.**

But to enable us to do that, the Spirit must do a double work. He must work in two directions: from the outside in and from the inside out. He must work from the outside in by exposing the mind to Christ-exalting truth. That is, He must lead us to hear the gospel, to read the Bible, to study Christ-exalting writings of great, spiritual men, and to meditate on the perfections of Christ. This is exactly what our great enemy does not want us to do according to **2 Corinthians 4:4**, “The **god of this world [Satan]** has blinded the *minds* of the unbelievers, to keep them from *seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ*.” Because to see that for what it really is, Paul says, will **renew the mind** and **transform** the life and produce unending worship.

And the Spirit must work from the inside out, breaking the hard heart that blinds and corrupts the mind. **The Spirit must work from the outside in, through Christ-exalting truth, and from the inside out, through truth-embracing humility.** If He only worked from the outside in, by presenting Christ-exalting truth to our minds but not breaking the hard heart and making humble, then the truth would be despised and rejected. And if He only humbled the hard heart, but put no Christ-exalting truth before the mind, there would be no Christ to embrace and no worship would happen.

What Then Shall We Do?

What then do we do in obedience to **Romans 12:2**, “Be **transformed** in the **renewal of your mind**”? *We join the Holy Spirit in His precious and all-important work. We pursue Christ-exalting truth and we pray for truth-embracing humility.*

Listen to rich expositions of the “gospel of the glory of Christ.” Read your Bible from cover to cover always in search of the revelation of the glory of Christ. Read and ponder the Bible-saturated, Christ-exalting writings of great, spiritual men and women. And form the habit of meditating on the perfections of Christ. And in it all pray, pray, pray that the Holy Spirit will renew your mind, that you may desire and approve the will of God, so that all of life will become worship to the glory of Christ.

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing,
This is victory.

May I run the race before me,
Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus
As I onward go.

May His beauty rest upon me,
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.

[May the Mind of Christ, My Savior](#)

Kate Wilkenson