

TREASURES IN JARS OF CLAY II

The God-Knowing Man



GOALS

1. Learn how to condition our minds for our journey into eternity
2. Know how to avoid the things that ruin our minds



1. THE MIND



What treasures reside in the mind?



MIND

The part of a person that enables them to be aware of the world and their experiences, to think, and to feel; the faculty of consciousness and thought.



THE MIND

- Like a man's character, man loses his natural or organic mind when he passes on, but carries over its noble qualities and contents over to his spiritual mind when he survives.
- The mind is a store-house of a man's treasures and must be jealously guarded.

QUALITIES OF THE MIND HAVING SURVIVAL VALUE

- Memories e.g. family, loved ones
- Experience (Christ still has his human experience. He knows what it feels like to be human, making him both Son of God and Son of Man)
- Knowledge of God
- Skills e.g. trade, craft

MEMORIES

Not all painful memories will make it into eternity. If it has no eternal value you will most likely lose it.



MEMORIES

- The Spirit of God in a man also preserves some of his precious memories for future use.
- He keeps memories of eternal value such as words spoken by God to him, and brings them into remembrance when they are needed.
- It is important that we dedicate time to making good memories.

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*But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my
name, will teach you all things and
will remind you of everything I have
said to you.*

KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Your knowledge of God will not suddenly increase because you are in eternity. What you know now you will carry with you. Even the Angels apply themselves to study.



KNOWLEDGE OF ETERNAL VALUE

This includes our knowledge of nature — nature exists not only in the physical but also in the spiritual, profession, studies or research that may have been done while in the flesh.



EXPERIENCE

Is an event or occurrence which leaves an impression on someone. Experience stabilizes a person on a bike. Experience is acquired by **actively** participating in life.



YOUR HUMAN EXPERIENCE IS PRICELESS

- Raising a family, or even a child not your own
- Fostering godly relationships
- The pain of putting a seed in the ground, nursing hope, and the joy of reaping a bounteous harvest
- Working out the issues of this life

YOUR HUMAN EXPERIENCE IS PRICELESS

- Take a hike
- Learn a dance
- Travel
- Learn one song a day
- Practice a new skill
- Etc.

DO NOT DESPISE YOUR HUMAN EXPERIENCE

- Even Christ who was God from the beginning had to know what it was like to be human, thereby taking on human form.
- It was after this that he declared himself sovereign over the world of man, fulfilling the Father's righteousness that the greatest must first become the least, in order to rule righteously.

GOOD CONSCIENCE

Your conscience is not the voice of God, rather the sum of all that you consider to be good. You can grow your conscience, you can also kill it by persisting against it.



2.

THINGS THAT RUIN OUR MINDS



What things can ruin your mind?



THINGS THAT RUIN OUR MINDS

- **Speaking evil**: our words first edify or defile us, before having any impact on our hearers. It is not that which goes into our mouths that defile us, but that which proceed from it. Always make an effort to speak good words.

THINGS THAT RUIN OUR MINDS

- **Seeing evil:** beholding certain images can leave a scar on the mind long afterwards. Make the effort to always see good things.
- **Hearing evil:** words can form images in your minds that take us back to seeing evil.
- **Practicing evil:** our actions have a direct impact on our inward nature. Let us practice only the good.

THINGS THAT RUIN OUR MINDS

- **Thinking evil:** all manner of thoughts occur to a man, but he chooses which ones to ponder, or dismiss. Make the effort to always think good thoughts.

So how do you deal with evil, intrusive thoughts?

REBUKE

When an undesirable thought tries to intrude on your mind, vocally rebuke it in the name of Jesus—do not ignore it.



3. EXPERIENCE IS PERSONAL



Can you acquire another man's experience?



EXPERIENCE IS PERSONAL

- Experience is not innate, it must be acquired through practice.
- A man's experience is personal to him only.

EXPERIENCE IS PERSONAL

- You can read about Christ's experience all you want, but his experience will never be yours simply because you know all about it.

QUESTION

When you have gained a certain kind of experience is it possible to erase or lose it?
How?



4. SUMMARY



What have we learned?



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*There are men who live yet they are
dead, rich yet they are destitute,
clothed yet barely draped and
naked, healthy yet very sick.*

SUMMARY

- The human mind is a store-house of a man's knowledge, experience and memories of eternal value
- The mind can be ruined by certain actions such as thinking evil, speaking evil and practicing evil.

THANKS!

ANY QUESTIONS?

