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THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

ARE YOU THINKING RIGHT?

A few years ago, the *Reader's Digest* published an article entitled, "Are You Thinking Right?" it concerned the two sides of the human brain. It seems that the vast majority of us use only the "logical left side" of our brains rather than the "creative right side." The title of the article is a play on words. Yet, the question of "Are You Thinking Right?" should be considered regarding spiritual matters.

Why is it that so many live in rebellion to the will of God? The answer is, **THEY ARE NOT THINKING RIGHT!** The apostle Paul, speaking of his life before obeying the gospel, declared, "I verily **THOUGHT** within myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which things I also did in Jerusalem; and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them" (Acts 26:9-10). Paul did as he thought to do, and he thought he was doing the right thing in persecuting Christians. We each do what we think to do. The wise Solomon wrote, "For as he **THINKS** in his heart so is he..." (Proverbs 23:7). The problem was that Paul was not thinking right. But his actions changed when his thinking changed. His thinking changed when he came face to face with the truth concerning Jesus Christ.

Before one will come to Christ his or her thinking must be changed. That is the purpose of the gospel. The gospel appeals to the mind of man; his intellect, will and emotions. Jesus said, "Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto Me" (John 6:45), therefore the Word of God tells us that the gospel is "the power of God to salvation" (Romans 1:16).

One cannot be thinking right if his thinking is not directed by divine truth. "Oh Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). This is the bottom line – one may **THINK** he is saved by "faith only" but is such thinking **RIGHT THINKING?** No, because the Bible clearly states "Ye see then that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (James 2:24). One may **THINK** that he should "join the church of his choice", but is such **RIGHT THINKING?** No, because the Bible teaches that the Lord adds the saved to His church (Acts 2:47). One may think that once one is saved he can do nothing to be lost but is such **RIGHT THINKING?** No, because the Bible teaches that the saved can sin so as to be lost eternally (Acts 8:13-23; Hebrews 6:4-6; 2 Peter 2:18-22; 1 John 1:1-6).

Friends, **ERIGHT THINKING** comes only as one allows the Word of God to direct his thinking. Are you **THINKING RIGHT?**