

Vain Imaginations

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"Depression is the deception that comes from seeing the world from your perspective. Truth comes from seeing the world through My eyes, from where I sit, at the right hand of the Father. The Cherubim cry holy, holy, holy - the earth is filled with His glory. Why? Because they dwell in my presence and if you dwell in my presence that is what you will see also."

1997 Prophetic experience Bob Hill

PART FIVE

So many changes are happening in the world you and I live in. When you add daily personal challenges of work, finances, emotional trauma, oil spills, economic distress, nations in crisis, wars, political vice, unemployment and families in crisis is why it necessitates a need to hear the still quiet voice of the Lord before a new day starts. We go to sleep and awaken many times to changes that alter life for days, weeks, months or even decades and yet we did nothing to cause it. Now because of this uninvited transition life's pressures are increasing and the complexity of daily challenges exponentially are multiplying. It has become the most challenging of times while in the identical flash of time it can result in an unprecedented time for growth in; *"love, joy, peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness, Gentleness (meekness, humility), self-control (self-restraint)," Gal. 5:22-26 AMP.*

One of the covert weapons in the satanic arsenal is the manipulation of "vain imaginations." This weapon is like mace, it blinds a believer's faith at crucial times. This demonic attack uses vain imaginations of anxiety, weariness, aloneness, despair, isolation and depression. It fluctuates in intensity and is experienced intermittently and for some it has become persistent. It has been described to me like this; *"I am by myself in this and I can't see the end of it."* These emotions are normal, but when they become demonically reinforced they will work to seduce us into thoughts and actions that manifest as disobedience to God's Word and Kingdom Principles. The good news is you are at the crucial point for victory not defeat.

Dan 10:12-13 AMP

"Then he said to me, Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind and heart to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come as a consequence of [and in response to] your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me for twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief [of the celestial] princes, came to help me, for I remained there with the kings of Persia. "

This is a perfect example of how the luciferian spirit tries to hinder our obedience and prayers. It took twenty one days for the messenger angel to *break through* and he needed help from Michael the Archangel to do it. It appears that Daniel was weary and worn from his persistent obedience and intercession. Don't give in or give up. The Lord has heard you from the first prayer. Even if you are worn down, discouraged, take heart you are in a good place to be strengthened by His divine touch. Don't let vain imaginations keep you from the victory. Remember when we are weak He is strong!

Dan 10:17-19 AMP

"For how can my lord's servant [who is so feeble] talk with this my lord? For now no strength remains in me, nor is there any breath left in me. Then there touched me again one whose appearance was like that of a man, and he strengthened me. And he said, O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace be to you! Be strong, yes, be strong. And when he had spoken to me, I was strengthened and said, Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me."

"The intensity of the attack is in direct proportion to the assignment you have accepted and requests you have made in prayer!" B. Hill

If imaginations do not line up with the Word of God and faith, we must break agreement and censure these tormenting spirits by exemplifying God's righteousness by casting them down. The following description is also in the book of Daniel and gives us increased insight about the end times and how the Anti-Christ spirit will influence the world. The number one tactic of the luciferian spirit will be to wear down those who purpose in their hearts to live Godly in the midst of great evil. Until the end of time we must help each other keep perspective by keeping faith in the Word of God. Even though these scriptures describe a terrible time against believers they also tell us that the enemy of our souls will be stripped of his authority completely.

Dan 7:25-27 CJB

"He will speak words against the Most High and try to exhaust the holy ones of the Most High. He will attempt to alter the seasons and the law; and [the holy ones] will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time. But when the court goes into session, he will be stripped of his rulership, which will be consumed and completely destroyed. Then the kingdom, the rulership and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. Their kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will serve and obey them."

I have often wondered how difficult these times must be for those who have no church family, it must be an indicator of why believers are so busy hedging the gap between faithlessness and faithfulness. I recently shared a three part message with the RHM congregation. It was about Covenant Relationship. I believe this subject was "divinely timed." I had completed it more than a month previous and it was listed in the church bulletin for a month before I could share it. Our worship services had been so anointed

that extended prayer and personal ministry filled the morning gatherings. This has been ongoing for almost two months now. I am grateful the congregation remained for an extra hour these last three weeks in order to receive the messages on Covenant Relationship. I believe our extended worship times are weaving our hearts together in a desire for increased Covenant Relationship. Below I have listed a few key concepts from these teachings that are *essential* to defeating and casting down vain imaginations.

THE ELEMENTS OF A COVENANT FELLOWSHIP

1. **The Covenant Of Affirmation;** There is nothing you have done or will do that will make me stop loving you.
2. **The Covenant Of Availability;** I am committed to going beyond myself; anything I have-time, energy, insight, possessions-is at your disposal.
3. **The Covenant Of Prayer;** I promise to pray for you:
4. **The Covenant Of Openness;** I promise to be a more open person. I trust you with my problems and dreams.
5. **The Covenant Of Honesty;** I will try to “mirror” back to you what I am hearing you say and feel. I will risk “speaking the truth in love that we grow up in every way unto Christ who is the head” Eph. 4:15.
6. **The Covenant Of Compassion;** I will try to hear you--see you--anticipate where you are--and draw you out of the pit of discouragement or withdrawal. Sometimes through the eyes of another person we see ourselves better. Jesus confronted Peter in John 21:15-17
7. **The Covenant Of Confidentiality;** I promise to keep confidential the things we share in order to provide an atmosphere of openness. There can be no love without trust. James 5:16 to “confess your faults to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.”
8. **The Covenant Of Accountability;** I will be accountable to you to become what God has designed me to be in His loving creation. What happens to me matters to you.

A Covenant Fellowship gives acceptance; it takes you just as you are. It allows you to be you....without being forced into someone else' perspective of who you are. It means you are taken seriously. It means a relationship with God and other Christians that is interwoven in covenant and implies a deliberate, deep commitment with open, honest caring and sharing, in other words.... **Koinonia**. It is important to be connected with believers of like precious faith that are making a sincere effort to walk in the above principles. The Book of James outlines the benefits of why it is important to be connected to a fellowship of believers who are trying to live these principles; *“Therefore, openly acknowledge your sins to one another, and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16 CJB*

One of the reasons healings are repressed in the Body of Christ is because fellowships are anemic in the above eight principles. If trust is not conveyed people will not acknowledge, confide or confess their needs to each other. Thus unified prayer becomes hindered and revival is delayed.

I was fishing with a professional guide on the Columbia River and during our conversations he shared his concerns about how complex things have become and how challenging this world is especially for his children and grand children. He said he was glad he spends two hundred days a year on the river as a fishing guide because it limits the constant pressure and chatter from life on shore. He went on to say how immorality is rampant and how morality and ethics have been vanishing from our culture. People he guides fishing tell him over and over all they want to do is to escape the madness, get away and enjoy a day of peace and quiet. He implied that most of his customers are saying the same thing, there seems to be no "true north" setting (a term used for navigation).

As I pondered this conservation I kept thinking; take heed how you hear, what you hear and who you hear. Be vigilant, the devil wants people to think it is worse than it is and that there is no way out until Jesus comes back. He wants to instill emotions of aloneness, despair and desperation. But there is hope and a glorious future if we have faith and trust God's Word; *"But when the court goes into session, he will be stripped of his rulership, which will be consumed and completely destroyed. Then the kingdom, the rulership and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. Their kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will serve and obey them."* Dan 7:25-27 CJB

The Word of God tells us that the enemy will try to wear down the saints. The spirit of this world wants to keep you tired, weary and thinking that you are trapped by your circumstances thus blinding you to the facts that we win and the devil is stripped of his rulership. Why? Because vain imaginations trigger a person to think that the whole universe spins around my situations (work, school, finances, marriage issues, children, health, etc). Yet the opposite is true, faith casts down these vain imaginations and opens our eyes to the excitement and miraculous of being a servant of the King of Kings.

The Word of God tells us; *"So take care that the light in you is not darkness! If, then, your whole body is filled with light, with no part dark, it will be wholly lighted, as when a brightly lit lamp shines on you."* Luke 11:35-36 CJB

It is no surprise to the Lord that we sometimes let go of our mooring lines and drift away from the dock of faith. But if you allow yourself to continue drifting off into the murky streams of me, myself and I... all three of you will realize that your lifeboat is now floating in the channel of frustration. In my fishing boat I have a Global Positioning

System (GPS). The key to GPS is you have to turn it on and trust it. One of the features I have learned to trust is an anchor warning alarm. If I slip anchor the alarm goes off alerting me that I have begun to drift. You and I have the word of God as our navigational chart and a Global Positioning System known as the Holy Spirit. If we trust these God given helps we will be remain safely anchored.

Navigating in this life free of negative thoughts is something that we have to do. So how often do we have to pull vain thoughts down? Every time we have one. God will not take vain thoughts captive, you have to do it. How do you pull down a tainted imagination? You examine it by holding it up to the purity of God's Word. When the Word of God exposes the imagination for what it is....you slash, rip, shred, pluck, tear, cast down and render them useless by breaking agreement and recognizing that they are not in faith or from God. To keep it simple, when you have a vain imagination you pull it down and; *"Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."* Matt 18:18

Do the following; "Say.... me, myself and I do not think this way and all of us reject this vain imagination in the name of Jesus Christ and we loose it from our mind casting it out and down. I bind to my spirit, soul and fleshman.... *"love, joy, peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness, Gentleness (meekness, humility), self-control (self-restraint)."* Why? Because vain imaginations are word pictures within your mind relating to thoughts, events or conversations that have been stashed in a hurt file. The demonic is waiting for you to take the bait and "image" them into works of the flesh. But when you declare and bind the fruit of God's spirit to your mind you crucify and destroy vain imaginations through the nature of Christ (*Gal. 5:22-26 AMP*)

Here's an example of how vain imaginations are destroyed in Christ. *"If you forgive someone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you hold them, they are held."* John 20:23 CJB I asked the Lord to help me understand how a person can forgive sins? If we understand this verse, it will empty the hurt files in our memories. Look closely at the verse; *"if you hold them they are held.... or If you forgive they are forgiven."* In verse 22 the verse prior to this one Jesus; *breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Ruach HaKodesh!* The Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) is first given in verse 22 so you have the power to forgive and release the hurtful disappointments encountered in life. Acts 1:8 tells us; that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon us. Why, because it takes power to let go, release, forgive and be converted to Christ's nature.

It is human frailty that holds on to hurt and disappointments. Forgiveness and letting go is how the thorn is removed from the soul. By casting down vain imaginations they will not be able to fester into ungodly behaviors. Believers in Christ cannot be driven by vain nomadic thoughts. Empowered by the *Ruah HaKodesh* you kick the tormenting thoughts out and send the demonic packing destroying any attempts they have made to

build a stronghold in your mind by leaving behind old baggage. How do you know if you have dumped the old baggage? My mother who has struggled and dealt with hurt and vain imaginations once said this to me; *"You know when it is gone, because you stop thinking about it, if you still think about it you haven't let it go!"*

In short out with the old and in with the renewed. Why? Because you look much better in the future than you do right now! Be bold, do not tread lightly when confronting vain imaginations put them under your feet and dance on their injustice by; *"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled. 2 Corinthians 10:5-6. kjv*

To "revenge disobedience" means bring to an end vain imaginations that are noncompliant to the Word of God and contradict the Fruit of The Spirit (Eph. 5:22-26). Notice the scripture above tells you to cast them down and then bring every thought to the obedience of Christ. Why? Because vain imaginations have no influence or power over those who; *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will." Rom 12:2 NIV*

If vain imaginations are allowed to drive on and on they will persist in quarreling with God's Word and your faith. When a thought conflicts with the Word of God you must cast it down and renew your mind so; *"He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:26-27 kjv*

THIEVES

Vain imaginations are always contrary to God's Word and pilfer peace because they are thieves.... don't live with robbers. Why? Because you never know what family treasures these mugger thoughts will try to embezzle from your life. When you form in your mind a picture image of something that might happen or react to an old wound you will begin the process of transitioning into the world of disobedience. Do not become manipulated, influenced and controlled by tainted imaginations, take authority by using your will and cast them out and down. Do not walk out a corrupted imagination, it is like strolling in a minefield.

Until you learn how to cast down corrupted imaginations you cannot cultivate the positive ones effectively. The devil wants to use your imagination to ensnare you in the world of "what if or I should have." Vain imaginations only offer discouragement, fear, confusion, anger and eventually defeat. The good news is that you can do something about them by taking command of your thought life! If you forgive and let go they're

gone for good. If you don't forgive.... what are you going to do with them, or should I say what are they going to do to you?

DUMP THE BAGGAGE

Vain imaginations make believers with mighty potential dramatically immature. Relationships, for example split because of vain imaginations. A person assumes that somebody said something about them and before they know it, they're giving life to corrupted thoughts, changing fellowships and abandoning life-long friends. These imaginations can be so serious that some even leave good churches because of these fantasy offenses. When an imagination enters your life, don't be afraid to call it what it is...."vain!" You need to say that's a vain imagination and I'm not "vaining" in agreement with this lie.

John 20:23

"If you forgive someone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you hold them, they are held." CJB

Holding onto hollow thoughts and imaginations will only empower them. What happens if you dwell on a "held" corrupt imagination? You will become emotionally troubled and the devil will prod you to act out the imagination. It will produce sin that hinders your prayers and grieves the Holy Spirit. You will begin a transition that if left unchecked can eventually lead to a reprobate (good for nothing) mind empty of God's presence. Vain imaginations destroy lives but you.... can stop every one by, *"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God.*

2 Corinthians 10:5-6. kjv

HOW TO DEFEAT THE WORLD OF VAIN IMAGINATIONS

The enemy's attack pattern has always been the same; it just manifests differently depending upon our individual life circumstances. Within our trials we have the choice to be "enticed, baited and allow the imaginations to mature" or we call for "crop failure" by pulling out every root of agreement and casting down every vain imagination and trusting God to bring crop failure to any wrong behavior we have acted out. The choice is ours alone.... if we pull out the root and cast down the vain thought it will not become building material for an emotional stronghold.

"A Strong Hold is a collection of wrong thoughts and actions that become the building materials for a house of habitation in your mind that the enemy has keys to." Bob Hill

It is really simple. The person comes under a demonic spirit's influence by agreeing, entertaining and partnering with a vain imagination. The unclean spirit then connects and attacks through a soulish dysfunctional trait (repeating vain imaginations). The soul is robbed by the thief, but there is no crime. Why? The owner has given a legal set of keys to a demonic spirit; these keys are the keys of agreement. If we break agreement.... neither it nor the thoughts have legal authority by which to squat or

maintain residency, this means there are no building materials for the enemy to design and build up a stronghold with. Why? Because you pulled them down and are renewing your mind by nurturing obedience to God's Word. If you don't do this they will fester within your soul until they infect your behavior.

Listed below is a scriptural pattern for how the luciferian spirit baits, entices and births vain imaginations, emotions, desires and actions so they can be used as materials by the enemy for stronghold development within your mind.

James 1:12-16 AMP

Blessed (happy, to be envied) is the man who is patient under trial and stands up under temptation, for when he has stood the test and been approved, he will receive [the victor's] crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted from God; for God is incapable of being tempted by [what is] evil and He Himself tempts no one. But every person is tempted when he is drawn away, enticed and baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions). Then the evil desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully matured, brings forth death. Do not be misled, my beloved brethren.

- 1. Drawn Away:** A suggestion is made by a messenger in the form of a fallen angel or a rebellious human and in your soul you come into agreement with it.
- 2. Enticed & Baited:** You begin to dwell and entertain the vain imagination and sinful thought developing a partnership of agreement.
- 3. It Conceives:** You embrace the thought, lie or perversion of truth. The reality of the disobedience becomes alive in your soulish carnal nature.
- 4. Gives Birth:** The seduction has taken root and disobedient behavior begins to channel out of you and manifest in the natural as sinful behavior.
- 5. Maturity:** You begin to speak, think and act disobediently which releases the curses and legal right for the enemy to assist you in building "the stronghold in your soul."

A pastor friend of mine shared this story with me; one evening an old Cherokee Chief told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two "wolves" inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego. The other is good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee Chief simply replied, "The one you feed"

What are you feeding? "Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God." Deut 11:26-28 KJV

The Word of God says; *“if we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”* To walk in the spirit means we walk in blessings because we are no longer reap the fallout associated with vain imaginations. *Gal 5:25*

How To Get Free And Stay Free

1. Renounce and repent from all vain imaginations towards others.
2. Repent for agreement with the enemy and for decisions that led you to misuse scripture to justify your behaviors.
3. Forgive those who have hurt you without conditions or excuses no matter who it is.
4. Repent and return if you have become isolated by leaving the fellowship of the saints.
5. Bind and cast out these specific spirits, bitterness, seduction, antichrist, deception, manipulation, lying, witchcraft, divination, lethargy, rage, murder, hate, jealousy, envy, strife, accusations, error and haughtiness.
6. Bind appropriate scriptures to yourself, like the Beatitudes and Fruit of The Spirit Mt. 5:3-12 & Gal. 5:22-23.

DELIVERANCE PRAYER

Father I ask your forgiveness for tolerating vain imaginations and demonic tormentors in my life. Father release in me the mature fruit of peace, joy, self-control, temperance, faith, humility, meekness and goodness. Father, by the power of the Holy Spirit I break off all confusion. I command all fear to leave me. I command heaviness, lethargy and weakness to break off, and I cast them down and out of my life. I bind to myself health, strength, clarity of vision and kingdom purpose. I command in the name of Jesus immorality, sickness, backbiting, slander, gossip, false words, discouragement, depression, suicidal thoughts, vain imaginations and rebellion to leave me now! I stand in your grace and receive the admonition that you have given me by the Power of The Holy Spirit. I repent and ask you to forgive me and cover me fresh and new with *“Your Sustaining Blood.”* I declare I am free from the torment of vain imaginations. Amen!



Blessings Pastor Bob Hill