

# A Confused Mind

## Get Ready!

How have you done with keeping your mind from wandering? What differences have you seen?

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Read James 1:5-8. What do you think this scripture means?

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Read Matthew 16:8 KJV

Why are a large percentage of God's people admittedly confused?

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What is "reasoning"?

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Why shouldn't we rely on reasoning when God directs us to do something?

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Reasoning occurs when a person tries to figure out the "why" behind something. Reasoning causes the mind to revolve around and around a situation, issue, or event attempting to understand all its intricate component parts. We are reasoning when we dissect a statement or teaching to see if it is logical, and disregard it if it is not.

Satan frequently steals the will of God from us due to reasoning. The Lord may direct us to do a certain thing, but if it does not make sense—if it is not logical—we may be tempted to disregard it. What God leads a person to do does not always make logical sense to his mind. His spirit may affirm it and his mind reject it, especially if it would be out of the ordinary or unpleasant or if it would require personal sacrifice or discomfort. It is always nice if the spirit and mind agree, but if they don't, we should always choose to follow the spirit (page 86)

### Get Set!

Read 1 Corinthians 2:14 KJV.

What is the Christian alternative to reasoning in the mind?

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Give an example from your own life of a struggle between the carnal mind and the spiritual man.

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Read James 1:22.

What are we to do when God speaks to us?

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Any time we see what the Word says and refuse to do it, reasoning has somehow gotten involved and deceived us into believing something other than the truth. We cannot spend excessive time trying to understand (mentally) everything the Word says. If we bear witness in the spirit, we can move ahead and do it. (Page 89)

Read Proverbs 3:5; Romans 9:1

Why is excessive reasoning dangerous?

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What three things does the human mind like? What is wrong with this?

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How did Paul know he was doing the right thing and not relying on his own reasoning?

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Read 1 Corinthians 2:1-2.

What was Paul's approach to reasoning?

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Why is this a good example for us today?

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Reasoning is not the normal condition in which God wants our mind to reside. Be aware that when the mind is filled with reasoning, it is not normal at least not for the Christian who intends to be victorious—the believer who intends to win the war that is fought on the battlefield of the mind. (Page 92)

Do you think you are addicted to reasoning? Explain.

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What can you do to depend more on God's spirit than your reasoning?

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## Remember

You and I must grow to the place where we are satisfied to know the One who knows, even if we ourselves do not know.

Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind, and do not rely on your own insight or understanding.

(Proverbs 3:5 AMPC)