

**Welcome to Westside Grace Ministries
Bible Sermons with
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CSI (Critical Scripture Investigator),
FBI (Forensic Bible Investigator),
Senior Investigator of WGM.**

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." — 2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Sermon Title: “A Renewed Mind: When Faith Meets Investigation”

Introduction: God Gave You a Mind to Use for His Glory

There is a false idea that faith and thinking are enemies.

Some believe that the more spiritual a person becomes, the less they should question, examine, or investigate.

But Scripture presents a different picture.

The God who created the universe also created the human mind.

The God who commands faith also commands wisdom.

The God who calls us to trust Him also calls us to test what we hear.

Biblical faith is not blind acceptance.

Biblical faith is trust based upon the character, promises, and revelation of God.

The Bible does not tell us to turn off our minds.

It tells us to transform our minds.

Romans 12:2 (KJV)

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

Point One: God’s Word Demonstrates Investigation

From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture shows careful examination.

The Bible contains:

- Legal reasoning.
- Historical investigation.
- Logical arguments.
- Witness testimony.
- Evidence evaluation.

In the Law of Moses, God distinguished between intentional murder and accidental death.

Why?

Because God examines:

- Actions.
- Motives.
- Circumstances.
- Responsibility.

God does not judge carelessly.

He evaluates truthfully.

Point Two: Wisdom Requires Observation

The wisdom writers examined life.

Proverbs studied human behavior.

Ecclesiastes examined human pursuits.

Job examined suffering and challenged faulty assumptions.

The wisdom literature teaches us:

Not every appearance represents reality.

Not every claim deserves acceptance.

Not every conclusion is correct.

A wise person learns to investigate.

Proverbs 18:17 (KJV)

“He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.”

The first explanation is not always the final truth.

Point Three: God Himself Invites Examination

The prophets presented God's relationship with Israel as a courtroom.

God did not fear examination.

He invited His people to consider the evidence.

Isaiah 1:18 (KJV)

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD...”

God was not saying that human wisdom is greater than His wisdom.

He was demonstrating that truth can withstand investigation.

Falsehood hides from examination.

Truth welcomes it.

Point Four: Jesus Christ Was the Master Teacher and Investigator

Jesus constantly challenged assumptions.

He asked questions.

He exposed contradictions.

He revealed hidden motives.

When people approached Him with false conclusions, He did not simply respond with emotion.

He responded with truth.

Jesus examined the heart.

He examined Scripture.

He examined the reasoning behind people's beliefs.

Christ teaches us that spiritual maturity requires discernment.

Point Five: Paul Defended the Gospel Through Evidence

The apostle Paul did not present Christianity as a meaningless theory.

He presented a historical claim.

The greatest example is the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (KJV)

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

Paul gave evidence:

- Christ died.
- Christ was buried.
- Christ was raised.
- Witnesses testified.

The resurrection was not based upon imagination.

It was based upon God's action in history.

Point Six: Faith Must Be Tested by Truth

The Bereans were commended because they examined Paul's teaching.

Acts 17:11 (KJV)

“...they searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.”

Notice:

They did not reject teaching.

They investigated teaching.

They did not follow every voice.

They compared every voice to Scripture.

A believer who never examines what they believe is vulnerable to deception.

Point Seven: The Danger Is Not Thinking — The Danger Is Thinking Without God

The Bible does not condemn reasoning.

It condemns prideful reasoning that refuses God.

Human wisdom becomes dangerous when it says:

“I do not need God's revelation.”

The problem is not the mind.

The problem is the heart controlling the mind.

A surrendered mind becomes an instrument of God.

The Challenge: Become a Disciple Who Investigates

Before accepting a teaching, ask:

What does Scripture actually say?

What is the context?

What evidence supports this conclusion?

Am I following God's Word or my assumptions?

Does this truth produce obedience?

Final Declaration

The Bible is not afraid of investigation.

The gospel is not afraid of questions.

Christ is not threatened by examination.

The truth of God stands firm.

We are called to be people who:

Think deeply.

Study faithfully.

Discern carefully.

Live obediently.

Because a renewed mind produces a transformed life.

Invitation

Today, God is calling us beyond shallow faith.

He is calling us into mature faith.

A faith that knows why it believes.

A faith that can stand when challenged.

A faith rooted not only in emotion, but in the truth of God's Word.

Bring your mind.

Bring your questions.

Bring your desire to know Him.

And allow God to transform you through the renewing of your mind.

Westside Grace Ministries Official Closing Announcement

Thank you for joining **Westside Grace Ministries** as we continue the mission of proclaiming, teaching, and defending the truth of God's Word.

We invite you to visit www.westsidegraceministries.com to access downloadable PDF Bible studies, online biblical studies, audio teachings, video presentations, and biblical books and written resources designed to equip believers in their understanding of Scripture.

If these teachings have strengthened your faith and helped you grow in biblical understanding, prayerfully consider partnering with this ministry. Your support helps create, publish, and distribute biblical resources for teaching and discipleship. Support may be provided through the ministry website or through **Zelle:** westsidegrace@yahoo.com.

Please like, share, and follow **Westside Grace Ministries** as we continue to proclaim Christ and rightly divide the Word of Truth.

Source: Bishop Michael McDaniel, Westside Grace Ministries.

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