

Attitude

Essential Attitudes of A Living Faith

(Ephesians 4:17-32)



Attitude

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- Stanford Research Institute reports that only 12.5 percent of our success in life is determined by knowledge; the other 87.5 percent comes from attitude. More than skill, knowledge, or aptitude, our attitude dictates our success in life.
- This lesson is NOT about promoting a “positive mental attitude” approach to life, but rather a balanced, informed, and godly approach to life.

Ephesians 4:17–32 (NKJV)

¹⁷ This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹ who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. ²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

Ephesians 4:17–32 (NKJV)

²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, “*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*” for we are members of one another. ²⁶ “*Be angry, and do not sin*”: do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷ nor give place to the devil. ²⁸ Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

Ephesians 4:17–32 (NKJV)

²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. ³² And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

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Definition of Attitude

- "A settled way of thinking or feeling about someone or something, typically one that is reflected in a person's behavior."
- "Beliefs, emotions, and behaviors toward a particular object, person, thing, or event"

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Components of Attitude

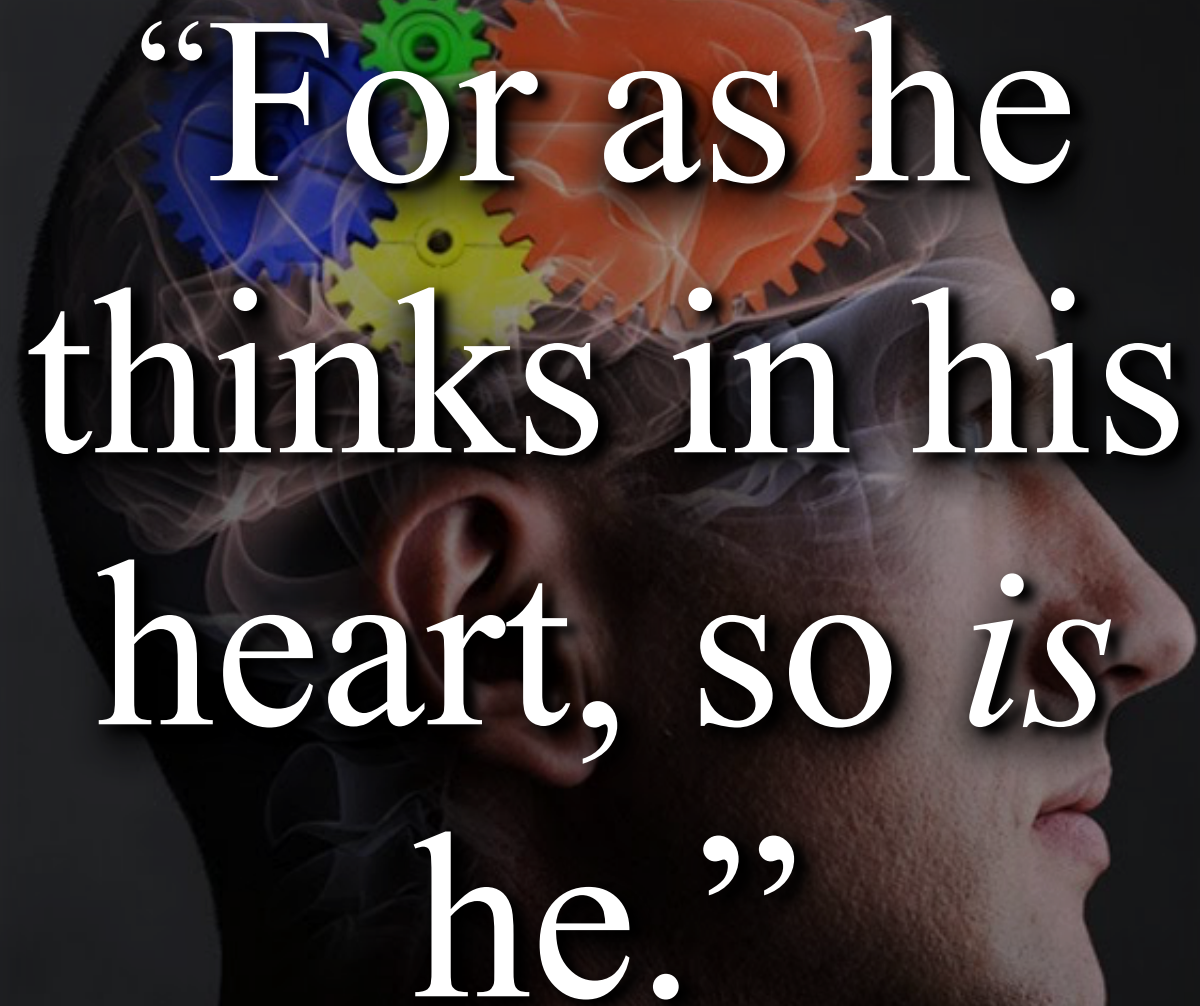


How we **THINK**,
FEEL & **BEHAVE**
towards God, His
will & His people.

- **Cognitive:** Your thoughts and beliefs about the subject.
- **Affective:** How the object, person, issue, or event makes you feel.
- **Behavioral:** How attitude influences your behavior.

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“For as he
thinks in his
heart, so *is*
he.”

Proverbs 23:7

Components of Attitude

- **Cognitive:** Your thoughts and beliefs about the subject.
- **Affective:** How the object, person, issue, or event makes you feel.
- **Behavioral:** How attitude influences your behavior.

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Mindset

Perspective

Disposition

Spirit

Mind

Godliness

Attitude

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Spirit

30.6 πνεῦμα^f, τος *n*: an attitude or disposition reflecting the way in which a person thinks about or deals with some matter—
‘disposition, attitude, way of thinking.’ ὑμεῖς οἱ πνευματικοὶ κατὰ τὸν τοιοῦτον ἐν πνεύματι πραΰτητος ‘those of you who are spiritual should set him right, but in an attitude of gentleness’ Ga 6:1.

(Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.)



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Spirit

Ephesians 4:23 (NKJV)
23 and be renewed in the
spirit of your mind,

Galatians 6:1 (NKJV)
1 ... you who *are* spiritual
restore such a one in a
spirit of gentleness,
considering yourself lest
you also be tempted.



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Mind

26.16 φρονέω^a: (derivative of the base φρον‘thoughtful planning,’ 26.15) to employ one’s faculty for thoughtful planning, with emphasis upon the underlying disposition or attitude—‘to have an attitude, to think in a particular manner.

Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). *Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains* (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.). New York: United Bible Societies.



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Mind

Philippians 2:2–5 (NKJV)

² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

³ *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,



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Mind

Romans 12:2 (NKJV)

² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.



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Colossians 3:1–3 (NKJV)

¹ If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.



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Godliness

eusebeia (εὐσέβεια, 2150), from *eu*, “well,” and *sebomai*, “to be devout,” denotes that piety which, characterized by a Godward attitude, does that which is well-pleasing to Him.

Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.



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Godliness

1 Timothy 4:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness. ⁸ For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.



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Ephesians 4:17–19 (NKJV)

¹⁷ This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of **their mind**, ¹⁸ having their **understanding darkened**, being alienated from the life of God, because of the **ignorance** that is in them, because of the **blindness of their heart**; ¹⁹ who, **being past feeling**, have **given themselves over to lewdness**, to work all **uncleanness with greediness**.



BELIEF

ATTITUDE

FRUIT

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Ephesians 4:20–24 (NKJV)

²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.



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Components of Attitude

- **Cognitive:** Your thoughts and beliefs are formed by accepting the TRUTH.
- **Affective:** Your thoughts, desires and will are moved to reverence, trust, & love God, His word, & people.
- **Behavioral:** You willingly & joyfully serve and obey Him in thought, word & deed from the heart.



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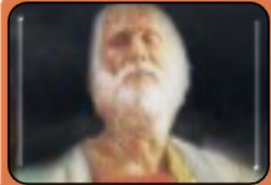
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GODLY ATTITUDE EXEMPLIFIED



NOAH - Gen 6,7



ABRAHAM - Gen 12-22



JOSEPH - Gen 39



MOSES - Exo. Num. Deut.



DAVID – 1 Sam 17; 2 Sam 12



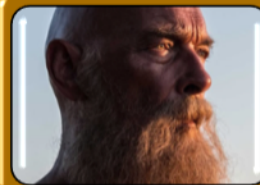
DANIEL



Mary - Luke 1:38



PETER - Mat. 16:16



PAUL - Phili. 3:7-11



EUNUCH - Acts 8:36



BEREANS - Acts 17:11,12



12 in Ephesus - Acts 19:1-5

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Matthew 5:3–10 (NKJV)

³ “Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed *are* those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. ⁵ Blessed *are* the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. ⁷ Blessed *are* the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. ⁸ Blessed *are* the pure in heart, For they shall see God. ⁹ Blessed *are* the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

★ **HUMILITY**

★ **PENITENT**

★ **MEEKNESS**

★ **DESIRE**

★ **MERCIFUL**

★ **HONESTY**

★ **LOVE**

★ **ENDURANCE**

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In order to be pleasing to God, we must have an attitude of complete trust & surrender.

DO WE HAVE AN ATTITUDE THAT PROMOTES A LIVING FAITH?

(Ephesians 4:17-32)

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WHAT ABOUT OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS :

GOD - JESUS / THE BIBLE /
OURSELVES / THE PEOPLE of GOD /
THE LOCAL CHURCH / THE LOST

(Ephesians 4:17-32)

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Romans 12:1–3 (NKJV)

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. ³ For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.