

"But if ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you; then it shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be Pricks In Your Eyes, And Thorns In Your Sides, And Shall Vex You in the land wherein ye dwell." Numbers 33:55 KJV



The strongest man is rendered helpless with a handful of sand in the eyes. Sand in your eye blinds you. Some of the most beautiful flowers have thorns and unless removed, mars their beauty with pain. Most avoid briars if possible. When clearing land, we had to remove several patches of hawthorn trees. The thorns were so hard they punctured the tractor tires and were a danger even after cutting down. The best way to eliminate them was to burn them and even then, putting them into the fire required great care for the thorns would slice like a razor! We had many cuts at the end of the day. Israel was to completely eradicate their enemies or pay the consequences of compromise! Believers need to eradicate habitual sin of lust through faith and obedience to God's Word or pay for it! *"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify (kill) the deeds of the body, ye shall Live."* Tolerance of sin is fatal! Faith protects us from our sinful flesh. You will not hear God unless you know His Word. You cannot know what you do not read, and you cannot *"meditate day and night"* on what you do not know. You will never hear God's Voice and never be faithful without God's Word in your thoughts. God's Word of Truth in your thoughts is God Speaking to you, and *"The Spirit of Truth Will Guide you into all Truth."* Once you've recognized the Voice of God in thought, it will forever change your life! *"Faith Cometh by...hearing...God."* Many voices clamor for your thoughts. God Knows every thought and intent. *"For the Word of God Is Quick And Powerful...And Is A Discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."* Satan cannot read your mind, but he can whisper evil. *"Above all, taking the Shield of Faith, Wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the FIERY DARTS of the wicked. Christ Also Loved The Church, And Gave Himself For It: That He Might Sanctify And Cleanse It With The Washing Of Water By The Word."* Fill your mind with the Water of God's Word through unceasing meditation and prayer and it will immediately extinguish every satanic dart. Before His Death, Jesus Said, *"Ye Are Clean Through The Word Which I Have Spoken unto you."*

Besetting sin will vex the soul,
God's Holy Word will make us whole,
His Truth will cleanse our hearts and minds,
And we will hear His Voice Divine! –CGP

How much rot would you allow in your food? Yet, we feed our soul sin's garbage with little thought of infection and wonder why we can't hear God. We don't study God's Word, because we yield to lusts and chase pleasure. Running towards God is running from evil. *"Draw nigh to God and He Will Draw Nigh to you."* A drunkard never dries out in a bar. Flee temptation; you can't resist it! *"Wherefore, come ye out from among them and be ye separate," Saith the Lord, 'and touch not the unclean thing."* Paul wrote, *"Let your speech be alway with Grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."* You may not be able to taste the salt in food, but you can sure tell when it's absent! Jesus said, *"Ye are the salt of the earth. Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another."* God's Word Is our *"salt."* Salt is, at once, a curative, a preservative, and a seasoning!

"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto Honour, Sanctified, and meet for the Master's Use, and Prepared unto every good work. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow Righteousness, Faith, Charity, Peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:21-22 KJV