

## Does mankind have free-will, and if so, to what extent:

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:, Deuteronomy 30:19.

People debate if mankind has free-will or does God direct all according to His will? The answer is Yes. Mankind chooses the thoughts they focus on, and God directs our steps. **For**, those who love God and are called, God will make all things work out for our good.

A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directs his steps, **Proverbs 16:9**.

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *His* purpose, **Romans 8:28**.

We have free-will over the thoughts we focus on and what we entertain in our mind. You may be wondering is this it, just how much control could this possible give us? But it tells of the power that's within our thoughts and the words that we speak. For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.

For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he: Eat and drink, says he to thee; but his heart *is* not with thee, **Proverbs 23:7**.

Its been debated, to what extent do we have free-will? Whereby, mankind's free-will is bound to the focus of his mind. If we are truly accessing the mind of Christ,, we really can not put a finite restriction on what the mind is capable of achieving, likewise, this applies for either greatness or for depravity.

For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ, **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:16**.

### **Conclusion:**

- We have ultimate control over our mind, whether our decisions be dark and leading to destruction or they be good and life giving, God will honor our choices.
- The first example that we see of mankind using or miss-using his free-will is when Adam and his wife chose to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This was not only a bad decision, but it was violating God's command not to eat of the tree, (*this could even be considered to be treasonous*). Just as God will also allow us today to accept or reject the salvation and the gift of eternal life that His Son, Jesus Christ has provided for all of us.
- Yes, mankind has free-will, (*use it wisely*). For it it can bring you into the light, or it can take you down a dark path of depravity, God will honor either choice that you make.

