



PHILIPPIANS



PHILIPPIANS 4:8–9

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

YOUR MIND MATTERS



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- ❖ **Hebrews 10:16:** “This is the covenant that I will make with them... I will put my laws on their hearts, and **write them on their minds...**”
- ❖ **Romans 12:2:** Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

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A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

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Matthew 13:7, 22: ⁷ “Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them... ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.”

A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

1. You must plant what you want.
2. You must cultivate what you want to keep.
3. The weeds are always competing.
4. Today's root is tomorrow's fruit.

A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

“What is the most resilient parasite?
Bacteria? A virus? An intestinal worm?
An idea. Resilient... highly contagious.
Once an idea has taken hold of the brain
it’s almost impossible to eradicate.”

“The smallest seed of an idea can grow.
It can grow to define or destroy you.”

— *Dominick Cobb*, “Inception”



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Psalm 19:7–8: ⁷ The instruction of the LORD is perfect, renewing one's life; the testimony of the LORD is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise. ⁸ The precepts of the LORD are right, making the heart glad; the command of the LORD is radiant, making the eyes light up.

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2 Corinthians 3:18: And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

1. Marinate in truth.
2. Ponder sacred things.
3. Plan for integrity.

A HEALTHY MIND (4:8)

- 1. Marinate in truth.**
- 2. Ponder sacred things.**
- 3. Plan for integrity.**
- 4. Admire what's best.**

AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

Proverbs 4:23

There is profit in all hard work,
but endless talk leads only to poverty.

AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

John Mackay illustrated two kinds of interest in Christian things by picturing persons sitting on the high front balcony of a Spanish house watching travelers go by on the road below. The “balconeeers” can overhear the travelers’ talk and chat with them; they may comment critically on the way that the travelers walk; or they may discuss questions about the road... but they are onlookers, and their problems are theoretical only. The travelers, by contrast, face problems which, though they have their theoretical angle, are essentially practical—problems of the “which-way-to-go” and “how-to-make-it” type, problems which call not merely for comprehension but for decision and action too.



AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

Balconeers and travelers may think over the same area, yet their problems differ. Thus... in relation to evil, the balconeer's problem is to find a theoretical explanation of how evil can consist with God's sovereignty and goodness, but the traveler's problem is how to master evil and bring good out of it. Or... in relation to sin, the balconeer asks whether racial sinfulness and personal perversity are really credible, while the traveler, knowing sin from within, asks what hope there is of deliverance.

AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

Or... while the balconeer is asking how one God can conceivably be three, what sort of unity three could have, and how three who make one can be persons, the traveler wants to know how to show proper honor, love and trust towards the three Persons who are now together at work to bring him out of sin to glory. And so we might go on.

Now this is a book for travelers, and it is with travelers' questions that it deals.

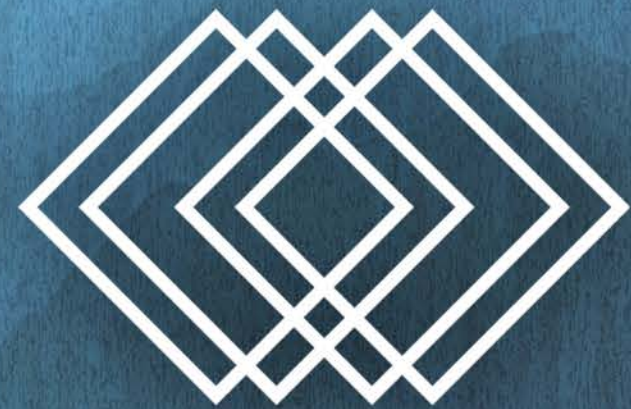
— J. I. Packer



AN ACTIVE WALK (4:9)

James 1:22

²² But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ Because if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like someone looking at his own face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But the one who looks intently into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer who works—this person will be blessed in what he does.



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