

*"... it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Why is our culture overwhelmed by:

Malformed Relationships

Materialism / Debt / Violence

Addiction to Media / Entertainment?

Actually, the answer is not hard

to find, it is simply a matter of

*... what we love!*

*"... it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

What we fix our eyes upon,

*... we go toward!*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

[the following was written by Charles H. Spurgeon, b. 1834 - d. 1892,  
and is as true today as the day it was written.]

**Charles H. Spurgeon** - July 25 / Morning & Evening Devotional

"He left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out."  
Genesis 39:12

*In contending with certain sins there remains no mode of victory but by flight.*

The ancient naturalists wrote much of basilisks, whose eyes fascinated their victims and rendered them easy victims; so the mere gaze of wickedness puts us in solemn danger.

He who would be safe from acts of evil must haste away from occasions of it.

*A covenant must be made with our eyes not even to look upon the cause of temptation, for such sins only need a spark to begin with and a blaze follows in an instant.*

Who would wantonly enter the leper's prison and sleep amid its horrible corruption?  
He only who desires to be leprous himself would thus court contagion.

If the mariner knew how to avoid a storm, he would do anything rather than run the risk of weathering it. Cautious pilots have no desire to try how near the quicksand they can sail, or how often they may touch a rock without springing a leak; their aim is to keep as nearly as possible in the midst of a safe channel.

# I have made a covenant

*. . with my eyes!*

This day I may be exposed to great peril, let me have the serpent's wisdom to keep out of it and avoid it. The wings of a dove may be of more use to me today than the jaws of a lion.

It is true I may be an apparent loser by declining evil company, but I had better leave my cloak than lose my character; it is not needful that I should be rich, but it is imperative upon me to be pure.

No ties of friendship, no chains of beauty, no flashings of talent, no shafts of ridicule must turn me from the wise resolve to flee from sin.

The devil I am to resist and *he will flee from me*, but the lusts of the flesh, *I must flee*, or they will surely overcome me.

O God of holiness preserve thy Josephs, that Madam Bubble bewitch them not with her vile suggestions.

May the horrible trinity of the world, the flesh, and the devil, never overcome us!

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

What we fix our eyes upon,

*. . we go toward and become like!*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Proverbs 23:7

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

1 John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

What we fix our eyes upon,

*. . we go toward and become like!*

*MarketWatch*

Published: Aug 4, 2018 5:09 p.m. ET

By Quentin Fottrell, Personal Finance Editor

Swipe. Click. Binge. Repeat.

Americans spend more time than ever watching videos, browsing social media and swiping their lives away on their tablets and smartphones.

American adults spend more than **11 hours per day** watching, reading, listening to or simply interacting with media, according to a new study by market-research group Nielsen.

That's up from nine hours, 32 minutes just four years ago.

In the first quarter of the year, U.S. adults spent three hours and 48 minutes a day on computers, tablets and smartphones. This is a 13-minute increase from the previous quarter, and 62% of that time is attributed to app/web browsing on smartphones.

Television still accounts for most media usage, with **four hours and 46 minutes** spent watching TV **every day** in the first quarter of this year.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

It is simply a matter of,

*. . what we love and*

*fix our eyes upon!*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Why is our culture overwhelmed by,  
*Malformed Relationships / Materialism / Debt @ Entertainment?*

Malformed Relationships - pre-marital sex, fornication, abortion,  
adultery, divorce, homosexuality + lesbianism and the break-up of families.

Materialism + Debt: Buying bigger / multiple homes & automobiles, purchasing  
luxuries [items not paid for by cash] or paying for expensive vacations with  
money borrowed on credit cards. This allows living beyond the  
limitations of the husband's income, causing both parents  
to work. The crushing debt load leads to choosing  
bankruptcy which defrauds ones neighbor.

It is simply a matter of,  
*. . what we love!*

Media and Entertainment - Decadent: Total absorption with unholy media, gaming, and  
pleasure-seeking. This entertainment contains some [or much] immorality,  
nudity, profanity, promotion of illicit relationships, violence and  
constant use of God's name ["OMG"] blasphemously . .

**crowding out time to be "alone with God."**

These day-by-day, hour-by-hour, choices corrupt the heart and mind,  
deadening the person to that which is holy.

---

*Why do people have difficulty getting alone with God daily to read and pray?  
It is not because we do not have time, training, teaching, or that we suffer  
great persecution, etc., it is simply a matter of what we love..*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

How To Have a,

*. . Personal Revival*



*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

## How To Have a Personal Revival

By **A. W. Tozer** (b. 1897 - d. 1963)

Any Christian who desires to may at any time experience a radical spiritual renaissance, and this altogether independent of the attitude of his fellow Christians.

The important question now is, How? Well, here are some suggestions which anyone can follow and which, I am convinced, will result in a wonderfully improved Christian life.

**1. Get thoroughly dissatisfied with yourself.** Complacency is the deadly enemy of spiritual progress. The contented soul is the stagnant soul. When speaking of earthly goods Paul could say, *"for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content"* (Philippians 4:11); but when referring to his spiritual life he testified, *"I press toward the mark"* (3:14). *"Thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee"* (2 Timothy 1:6).

**2. Set your face like a flint toward a sweeping transformation of your life.** Timid experimenters are tagged for failure before they start. We must throw our whole soul into our desire for God. *"The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force"* (Matthew 11:12).

**3. Put yourself in the way of the blessing.** It is a mistake to look for grace to visit us as a kind of benign magic, or to expect God's help to come as a windfall apart from conditions known and met. There are plainly marked paths which lead straight to the green pastures; let us walk in them. To desire revival, for instance, and at the same time to neglect prayer and devotion is to wish one way and walk another.

**4. Do a thorough job of repenting.** Do not hurry to get it over with. Hasty repentance means shallow spiritual experience and lack of certainty in the whole life. Let godly sorrow do her healing work. Until we allow the consciousness of sin to wound us, we will never develop a fear of evil. It is our wretched habit of tolerating sin that keeps us in our half-dead condition.

**5. Make restitution whenever possible.** If you owe a debt, pay it, or at least have a frank understanding with your creditor about your intention to pay, so your honesty will be above question. If you have quarreled with anyone, go as far as you can in an effort to achieve reconciliation. As fully as possible make the crooked things straight.

*" . . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

**6. Bring your life into accord with the Sermon on the Mount** and such other New Testament Scriptures as are designed to instruct us in the way of righteousness. An honest man with an open Bible and a pad and pencil is sure to find out what is wrong with him very quickly. I recommend that the self-examination be made on our knees, rising to obey God's commandments as they are revealed to us from the Word. There is nothing romantic or colorful about this plain, downright way of dealing with ourselves, but it gets the work done. Isaac's workmen did not look like heroic figures as they dug in the valley, but they got the wells open, and that was what they had set out to do.

**7. Be serious-minded.** You can well afford to see fewer comedy shows on TV. Unless you break away from the funny boys, every spiritual impression will continue to be lost to your heart, and that right in your own living room. The people of the world used to go to the movies to escape serious thinking about God and religion. You would not join them there, but you now **enjoy spiritual communion with them in your own home**. The devil's ideals, moral standards and mental attitudes **are being accepted by you without your knowing it**. And you wonder why you can make no progress in your Christian life. Your interior climate is not favorable to the growth of spiritual graces. There must be a radical change in **your habits** or there **will not be any permanent improvement** in your interior life.

**8. Deliberately narrow your interests.** The jack-of-all-trades is the master of none. The Christian life requires that we be specialists. Too many projects use up time and energy without bringing us nearer to God. If you will narrow your interests, God will enlarge your heart. "Jesus only" seems to the unconverted man to be the motto of death, but a great company of happy men and women can testify that it became to them a way into a world infinitely wider and richer than anything they had ever known before. Christ is the essence of all wisdom, beauty and virtue. To know Him in growing intimacy is to increase in appreciation of all things good and beautiful. The mansions of the heart will become larger when their doors are thrown open to Christ and closed against the world and sin. Try it.

**9. Begin to witness.** Find something to do for God and your fellow men. Refuse to rust out. Make yourself available to your pastor and do anything you are asked to do. Do not insist upon a place of leadership. Learn to obey. Take the low place until such time as God sees fit to set you in a higher one. Back your new intentions with your money and your gifts, such as they are.

**10. Have faith in God.** Begin to expect. Look up toward the throne where your Advocate sits at the right hand of God. All heaven is on your side. God will not disappoint you. If you will follow these suggestions you will most surely experience revival in your own heart. And who can tell how far it may spread? God knows how **desperately** the church needs a spiritual resurrection. And it can only come through the revived individual.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Not everyone who says to Me,  
"Lord, Lord," will enter

*. . the kingdom of heaven!*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

I Never Knew You  
Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to me,  
‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven,  
but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

On that day **many** will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not  
prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your  
name, and do many mighty works in your name?’

And then will I declare to them,  
‘I never knew you; depart from Me,  
you workers of lawlessness.’

Lord, will those who are saved,

*. . be few?*

The Narrow Door  
Luke 13:22-27

He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and  
journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to Him, “*Lord,*  
*will those who are saved be few?*” And He said to them,  
“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For **many**,  
I tell you will seek to enter and will not be able.

When once the master of the house has risen and shut the  
door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at  
the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you,

*‘I do not know where you come from.’*  
Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your  
presence, and you taught in our streets.’

But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from.

Depart from me, all you workers of evil.’

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

To the Church in Laodicea  
Revelation 3:14-22

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write,  
'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and  
True Witness, the Beginning of the creation  
of God: "I know your works, that you are  
neither cold nor hot. I could wish you  
were cold or hot.

"I stand at the door and knock"

*. . will you let Jesus in?*

So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor  
hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

Because you say,

I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of  
nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched,  
miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

I counsel you

to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you  
may be rich; and white garments, that you may  
be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness  
may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes  
with eye salve, that you may see.

As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous  
and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone  
hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him  
and dine with him, and he with Me.

To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne,  
as I also overcame and sat down with My Father  
on His throne.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

*"... it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Why do we all need a Savior?

*“ . . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!”*

### **The Moral Law of God: Exodus 20:3-17**

And God spoke all these words, saying:

1. “You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. “You shall not make for yourself a carved image  
—any likeness of anything
3. “You shall not take the  
name of the Lord your God in vain,  
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless  
who takes His name in vain.
4. “Remember the Sabbath day
5. “Honor your father and your mother
6. “You shall not murder.
7. “You shall not commit adultery.
8. “You shall not steal.
9. “You shall not bear false witness  
against your neighbor.
10. “You shall not covet

### **James 2:10**

For whoever shall keep the whole law,  
and yet stumble in one point,  
*he is guilty of all.*

# Because sinners need a Savior!

**Ezekiel 18:20** The soul who sins shall die.

**Matthew 22:13** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

### **Isaiah 59:2**

But your iniquities have separated you from your God;  
And your sins have hidden His face from you, . .  
. . so that He will not hear.

---

*I have broken the Moral Law of God and the just penalty for my willful sin is death.*

3. Lord’s Name in vain. Using “OMG” or “Jesus Christ” as a swear word, violates His law.
7. Adultery. *“Whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery.”*
8. Steal. To steal anything makes me a thief.
9. False Witness. To ever lie about anything, makes me a liar.
10. Covet. To desire what someone has, either possessions or place, makes me covetous.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Jesus opened his mouth and,  
*. . taught them, saying,*

“But I say to you . . .”



*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Matthew 5:17-20

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

*But I say to you . .*

Matthew 5:21-26

"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'

**But I say to you** that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

Matthew 5:27-28

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

**But I say to you** that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Matthew 5:29-30

If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

Matthew 5:31-32

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'

**But I say to you** that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

*But I say to you . .*

Matthew 5:33-37

"Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.'

**But I say to you**, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

Matthew 5:38-42

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

**But I say to you**, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well.

And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles.

Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Matthew 5:43-48

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

**But I say to you,** Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,  
so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes  
his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just  
and on the unjust.

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even  
the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others?  
Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

*"But I say to you . . ."*

Matthew 5:1-11

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and  
when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the  
kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds  
of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted  
the prophets who were before you.

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

Luke 13:23,24

Then one said to Jesus,

*"Lord, are there few who are saved?"*

And He said to them,

*"Strive to enter through  
the narrow gate,  
for many,  
I say to you,  
will seek to enter  
and will not be able."*

Will you now trust in Jesus Christ

*. . and what He did for you?*

Acts 4:12

*"Nor is there salvation in any other,*

*for there is no other name [Jesus Christ]  
under heaven given among men by which*

*we must be saved."*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

*"Lord Jesus Christ, up until this very moment, all of my life has been completely wrapped up in 'me' . . . my wants, my desires, my will, my way, my timing.*

*I now see that all that produced was sin. I have offended You, Almighty God, and harmed others by my self-centeredness.*

*I am broken-hearted and devastated by the truth that I have withheld from You what is rightfully Yours, all that I am and all that You have placed in my hands.*

*I now understand that everything belongs to You for Your control and not for my control.*

*I have rebelled against Your will and have chosen to take my own way to my hurt and to the hurt of those around me.*

*I solemnly choose to let go of everything in my life and give all completely to You, the rightful Sovereign Owner.*

*My Prayer, expressing my desire to say "Yes"*

*.. to Jesus calling me to Him!*

*Would You please draw me now to Yourself, forgive me and give me Your life?*

*Please send the Holy Spirit to give me the promised new birth and seal me as Your very own purchased possession for all eternity.*

*Please give me Your supernatural joy and peace which You promised and that confirms that You have accepted my plea.*

*Dear Lord and Savior, I have counted the cost, knowing this requires all of me forever.*

*I am so very thankful that You are always pleased to receive and accept any and every person that comes to You on these terms of absolute surrender of self."*

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

When you have heard God's voice asking as He asked Adam, "Where are you?" (Genesis 3:9); when you have been arrested by your conscience and have been convicted by God, the Holy Spirit (John 16:8), of your sin, this page is your declaration of that event.

When God has spoken to you and you have asked Jesus Christ to be the Savior and Lord of your life, you will feel compelled to make it known (Romans 10:9).

Salvation is a Private Event occurring in the heart and no one except you and God can confirm it has happened (cf. Mark 4:13-20).

Even though salvation is a Private Event, being a follower of Christ requires a Public Profession. Jesus makes no option available to His followers to be undercover Christians (Romans 10:9).

*"So everyone who acknowledges Me before men, I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies Me before men, I also will deny before My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32).*

When you have heard God's voice,  
*. . tell somebody!*

Asking Jesus Christ to save you: [or similar words expressed by your own personality].

Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and my sin separates me from God. Because God, the Father, loves me, He sent You to pay the penalty for my sin by dying on the cross to restore me to fellowship with Himself (1 John 1:9).

I ask you to forgive my sins and give me eternal life (Luke 11:13).

It is my deepest desire to love You and obey Your Words (Romans 10:9-10).  
Rejoice!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Sign above / Print below

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hour:

Please email us a copy when this is completed, and we will regularly pray for you.  
Tell Somebody!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person Told:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Person Told:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

Email to: [WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com](mailto:WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com)

*" . . it has always been about the battle for the mind!"*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears reliev'd;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believ'd!*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promis'd good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

## Amazing Grace

*. . that sav'd a wretch like me!*

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease;  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine;  
But God, who call'd me here below,  
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun.

John Newton, Olney Hymns (London: W. Oliver, 1779)