Did you ever have the uncomfortable experience of having someone ask you, “You’ve been listening to prosperity teachings for ten years. What do you have to show for it?” You’re correct in feeling uncomfortable because, in actuality, they have concluded their judgment of your life, and they just enlightened you by saying, “Evidently, you haven’t been thinking.”

Here’s another common scenario. Did you ever say, “We’ve been married 20 years and we ain’t got nothing to show for it?” You just exposed the fact that your marriage lacked a head. Your marriage represented two bodies that came together, but never originated one significant thought.

Whatever mind or level of consciousness you are operating in, during the act of copulation, will shape the thought that is getting ready to come forth.

Every family is supposed to be a community of authority, where two masterminds come together and form one mastermind. Out of that, a husband and a wife, a father and a mother, produce seed and create thoughts. They’re known as children. Every time a child is born, a thought is born. Lovemaking is an art; so where is your portrait?

Marriage is not intended for recreation, but for procreation. Every time a woman conceives, she brings forth a masterpiece.

The painter takes out the pen and puts the ink on the board. You can let your mind wander in any direction.
you wish. That’s why, in the process of lovemaking, you should never make love while you are angry, lest you produce a masterpiece that appears as a child of wrath.

Whatever mind or level of consciousness you are operating in, during the act of copulation will shape the thought that is getting ready to come forth. What kind of mind did you have when you conceived or released that rebellious child? Is the child truly rebellious, or is it a mirror of your state of mind when it was conceived?

**The Determining Factor**

Thought is the determining factor.

*Proverbs 23:7*

*For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he...*(KJV)

You are your thoughts. You are the product of your thoughts. What are you thinking about? What is on your mind? Every thought has its consequence, for thoughts are things. If you find different thoughts, you’ll attract different things. You actually live according to the established pattern of your thoughts.

All habits begin with a thought that is planted in the mind. Whatever thought you habitually think will eventually become a belief. Your habits become forms. You want to know the problem in your life? You thought the wrong thing until it manifested as a habit. Now, you’ve got to think about the right thing long enough, so that you can develop good habits.

Do you have a habit of throwing your clothes on the floor? Be honest. You throw your clothes on the floor. I’m going to teach you how to break the habit. All you have to do is hang up your clothes for 30 days straight and you will develop the habit of hanging them up. Somebody invented the pump for toothpaste because somebody saw wealth in someone else’s problem.

When you start creating a cycle of bad habits, you’ll usually find that they become the threshold of almost every argument that takes place in your home. Someone says, “Now, listen, this habit has just been going on too long. I’m not having any more of this habit.”

Couples end up in divorce court, and don’t even know why. And, as ridiculous as it sounds, vast irritation can come from a simple habit like leaving the toilet seat up. One person was producing disorder in the other person’s life or arrangement. The older you get, the more habits you create, and you have to work on breaking those that are detrimental.
The thoughts you maintain will determine your lifestyle. There are some places I will not go because I don’t want that thought pattern to enter my life. There are some people I will not walk with, because I don’t want their pattern in my life. There are some individuals who may perceive my reticence, and they’ll say, “He thinks he’s better than us.” No, I just don’t want their mental pattern in my situation. If you hang out with the seamstress, you’re going to have to buy the pattern.

In Mark 11:23, Jesus said, “You shall have whatsoever you say.” You can’t say what you can’t see. Unless a picture first becomes a thought in your mind, there can be no declaration. But once you hang a picture on the wall of your mind, it is yours.

Your Power, Your Devil

Don’t give your power away by confessing negativity. When you confess negative things, you give it the power of manifestation. The only power that the devil has is the power that you give him. The devil cannot manifest until you, the I am, connect your “I am” to that which is other than God. Thoughts speak of themselves as “I am”.

Your thoughts are always speaking and connecting with your “I am”, for “I am” is God. The devil cannot manifest until you, the “I am”, breathe life into your negative thought, for that which is negativity is other than God. “Otherness” is the devil. The devil is your ignorance of God.

That thing can’t manifest in your life until you say, “I am the devil.” Then the devil will stand up in agreement with your fatalistic thoughts and say, “Thank you. I’ve been waiting for you to give me life. Jesus bound me, but you raised me up. Jesus did His work; He destroyed my works, (I John 3:8) but you resurrected my works so that I can operate in your life.”

Get the image of a devil with a horn and a tail out of your mind. The only horn that the devil has is the one that you painted, and the only tail that the devil has is the one that you give it. The devil that you’ve been seeing in Hollywood is an illusion, or a devil of someone’s mind. You’re probably quite disturbed because I’m taking your devil away. But rejoice and be glad! I’m taking away your crutch!

Flip Wilson preached this revelation when he used to say, “The devil made me do it.” He used to make us all laugh at how silly it was to blame the devil for our own actions, but we
Marital Union of Thought: Chapter 2

never applied this very vital truth to our lives. Everyone looks for a devil to blame. That’s the human nature that revealed itself in the Garden of Eden.

In Genesis 3:9, God asked, “Adam, where art thou?”
Adam: “I'm hiding over here.”
God: “Why?”
Adam: “Because I’m naked.”
God: “Why did you eat from the tree when I told you not to?”
Adam: “That woman you gave me, she made me eat.”

No one made Adam eat of that tree; he ate of it all by himself. He couldn’t eat of the tree unless he first had a mental image that desired to eat of the tree. You can only do what you’ve already pictured in your mind. That thought was already in him; Eve only came to confirm it. You will always attract what is in you.

You're Fighting With Yourself!

This is the reason why many of you will not come into your “I am-ness”. You have not accepted yourself. That’s why you and your mate are having problems; you are still clothed and never became naked. You may have been nude, but you’ve never been naked with one another. There is a difference between nudity and nakedness. You can be physically nude with your mate, but still clothe your mind.

You will attract people at the level of thought in which you are operating.

Many of you are wrestling with your mate and, like Adam, you seek to blame your partner for all the inadequacies of your relationship when the true reality is that your mate is just a reflection of yourself. It becomes easy to blame them or castigate them for their shortcomings but, the truth is, you’re only wrestling with yourself. You will never come to a plateau of peace with your mate until you are willing to accept yourself with all of your flaws. It is then that you will be able to accept your mate, for you will understand that the issue is not your mate, but you.

Sometimes, you need to do things that will affirm your “I am-ness.” Whenever I start feeling good about myself, I buy quality things for myself. I started noticing that as I did so, I started attracting quality people in my life. When I was buying plastic ware, I had plastic relationships. “I meet no one but me.” You meet no one but you. You will attract peo-
people to you at the level of thought in which you are operating. Change your mind, and you will change your friends.

Your thoughts will draw both friends and foes. If there is an enemy in you, then that thought will attract a visible form of the enemy that lurks within you. People often ask me what I do about my enemies. I work in me, because my enemy is just me in another form. If I can get rid of every negative thought in me, I will never have an enemy outside of me. You can only love your neighbor as yourself.

An enemy can only show up outside of you when there’s a self-hatred or a hidden disaster roaming around in you. That’s why, when you change your thinking, you change your lifestyle. You’ve got to think your way through to the other side.

What has caused that person to act nasty toward you? It is not really him/her, but it’s you. What caused your children to act the way they are acting? It’s not really them, it’s you. Something in you has to be dealt with and overcome. Only when you wrestle with yourself can you change their response to you, for, in reality, you’re wrestling with yourself. Enemies only manifest because there is some form of rejection in you that came through shame because of the fall.

Enemies are only in your life to highlight the shame that has been in you. And the reaction of shame creates the illusion that you have enemies. But when you remove the shame out of you, one of three things will happen. Either your supposed “enemy” will move away, he/she will change and give you an apology, or God will move you on to the next level. Remove the shame that lurks within, and rejection will be eliminated from around you.

Anyone that appears in your life could not have appeared unless you first appeared in them. You are them and they are you. You have not understood who you are. Doesn’t Jesus say, in John 12:32, “Lift Me up and I will draw all men unto Me?” Didn’t Jesus also say that you could not come unto the Father unless He drew you? The only way anyone can be drawn into anyone else’s presence is that they have to be them. I have to be you. You have to be me.

That’s why Ananias could not come to Paul until Paul was Jesus. The light of revelation concerning his Christhood came, and Paul was blinded. He was knocked off of his beastly

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_Bishop E. Bernard Jordan_
nature. Paul asked, “What’s going on?” and the Lord replied, in Acts 2:36, “I am Jesus Whom thou hast crucified.” Don’t think that a voice spoke out of a cloud, or out of the natural stratosphere. If you do, you’ve missed it.

Yes, there was a voice out of Heaven. Paul heard a voice out of Heaven saying, “I am Jesus.” The Body of the Lord could not come to Paul until he was the body.

This is why whatever you need to meet, you’ll first meet it within yourself. When I am reading certain books and materials and the Holy Spirit is bringing illumination, I’m already meeting with all those who shall be partakers of that light. You have already heard the revelation in eons past; you just don’t remember it. That’s why you spend most of your life awakening.
CHAPTER 2 REVIEW QUESTIONS

Fill in the Blanks
1. Every family is a community of ____________.

2. Consciousness affects ________________.

3. Thoughts are the ____________ ______________.

4. You can’t say what you ____________ ______________.

5. Don’t give your ____________ away by confessing ________________.

6. The devil is your ____________ ____________ ____________.

7. You ____________ no one but ____________.

8. ____________ creates the illusion that you have enemies.

9. Change your ____________ and change your ____________.

10. The devil will stand in agreement with your ________________.

True or False
1. _____ You give power to the devil.

2. _____ Your thoughts establish the pattern of your life.

3. _____ All habits begin with a consequence.

4. _____ “I am” is defined as “otherness.”

5. _____ Your mate is a reflection of their flaws.

Affirmation Project

Think about the major times you have felt victimized or attacked by the devil. Write down every instance you can remember. Meditate on each event, and locate your own error. Make a record of what you have learned about yourself through each event.